Beaver County 2018-2019 Senior Resource Guide

In cooperation with the Beaver County Office on Aging



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Welcome

7e are pleased to present the 2018-2019 Beaver County Senior Resource Guide. The guide is not just for older adults but also for the bounty of professionals and caregivers who serve them.

The Resource Guide's comprehensive listing of resources and services begins on page 6 with programs offered by the Beaver County Office on Aging (BCOA). BCOA covers the gamut of community and home-based services in our county for those who qualify.

The Healthcare Resources section starting on page 16 encompasses a broad spectrum of resources in our area—from mental health to hospice care, and preventative health to hearing assistance. We provide listings of adult day services, home health agencies, respite care and other in-home services that enable seniors to live independently in their own residences.

The rest of the Resource Guide outlines helpful information for every facet of life: from home safety, and legal and financial services to transportation, housing options, volunteering and other life enrichment activities—all designed to help older adults get the best from themselves, their community and their lives.

Keep this booklet handy so you can refer to it, as needed. And let us know how you use this publication, as well as your thoughts on how we can continue to improve it to better serve you.

Lynn Webster

Beaver County Senior Resource Guide

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Honored to Assist Our Seniors



Daniel C. Camp III, Chairman Sandie Egley, Commissioner Tony Amadio, Commissioner

The Beaver County Office on Aging ministers to the diverse needs of its aging population by identifying the needs in the communities, ensuring the provision of quality services, preserving the dignity of the individual, and advocating for their rights.

The Board of Commissioners recognizes the contributions and sacrifices made by the senior citizens of Beaver County. We are grateful for the safe and beautiful communities which they have built and entrusted to our care. We appreciate the work ethic, the culture and the heritage that is alive and well in our small towns and we will work diligently to sustain Beaver County as a great place to live, work and play for all generations.

o you need answers to questions about your county government? Do you need assistance or have a complaint? Call (724) 728-5700 or visit beavercountypa.gov.

Beaver County Commissioners

Daniel C. Camp III, Chairman Sandie Egley, Commissioner Tony Amadio, Commissioner

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Board of	
Commissioners	(724) 770-4400
Clerk of Courts	(724) 770-4590
Controller	(724) 770-4520
Coroner	(724) 770-4618
District Attorney	(724) 773-8550
Prothonotary	(724) 770-4570
Recorder of Deeds	(724) 770-4560
Register of Wills	(724) 770-4550
Sheriff	(724) 770-4600
Treasurer	(724) 770-4540

Human Services

Children and	
Youth Services	(724) 891-5800
Behavioral Health	(724) 847-6225
Crisis Help-Line	(724) 371-8060, (800) 400-6180
Office on Aging	(724) 847-2262 (Local)
	(888) 548-2262 (Long Distance)
Veteran's Affairs	(724) 770-4450

Public Services

Assessment Info	(724) 770-4480
Tax Claim Office	(724) 770-4480
County Jail	(724) 378-8177
Public Defender	(724) 770-4500
Public Works	(724) 770-2070
Bureau of Elections	(724) 770-4440
Emergency Services	911
Non-Emergency	(724) 775-0880
Waste Management	(724) 770-2066
Recycling Center	(724) 770-2064
Solicitor's Office	(724) 770-4444
Weights and	
Measures	(724) 622-2428

Beaver County Office on Aging

Beaver County Office on Aging

Human Services Building

1020 Eighth Ave.
Beaver Falls, PA 15010
(724) 847-2262 (Local)
(888) 548-2262 (Long Distance)
TDD (724) 728-5700
beavercountypa.gov/Depts/OOA

Welcome to the Beaver County Office on Aging. We operate under the direction of the Beaver County Commissioners and guidance from an advisory council that includes professionals and community members.

The BCOA programs and services outlined on the next few pages are provided to individuals ages 60 and older directly by the agency or by monitored subcontractors. Services are provided based on consumer need and program guidelines. In-home services are supportive in nature and are designed to help individuals live independently in a home setting. Services are offered on a priority basis, which corresponds to a comprehensive needs assessment. BCOA is here to serve you, so please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or comments.

Information and Assistance

This is the first step in accessing Beaver County Office on Aging information and services. An information specialist attempts to answer any questions or concerns. Information and assistance in obtaining PACE (Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly) and Property Tax/Rent Rebate is provided.

Adult Daily Living

Adult daily living centers offer an interactive, safe, supervised environment for older adults with cognitive or physical health conditions. The center can provide personal care, nursing services, therapeutic activities and meals. This community-based alternative to institutional care also acts as a reliable source of support for caregivers.

APPRISE

This counseling program is available to assist consumers who have questions about their health insurance, medical bills and prescription coverage. See page 46.

Domiciliary Care*

Placement is offered to individuals ages 18 and older in a certified, private home where supervision and assistance are provided. Dom Care provides a family-like environment for those who are unable to live independently due to a social, emotional or physical disability.



Health and Wellness

This program provides community based programs on healthrelated issues. Topics are intended to promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

In Home Meals*

Meals are delivered on weekdays to individuals whose health condition prevents them from cooking. To qualify, you must be a resident of Beaver County, age 60 or older and unable to prepare meals for yourself. No special diets are available for these deliveries. An assessment is required. Contact BCOA to arrange delivery.

Homemaker Service*

BCOA can arrange for services such as shopping, laundry, light housekeeping and other services, when an individual's health problems prevent them from being able to maintain these household activities.

Home Safety Renovations

Home Safe Home provides renovations and safety changes to an individual's home so that it is accessible and safe. Ramps, grab bars and stair glides are examples of the types of renovations available. Call (724) 496-1558 for an evaluation of your home. Your home or apartment may be owned or rented. A co-pay may be required.

Keen-Age News

Keen-Age News provides information on Beaver County Office on Aging program and updates on services and programs benefitting older adults. Read it on the Office on Aging page of the Beaver County website at beavercountypa.gov/Depts/OOA.

Beaver County Office on Aging

Legal Services

Legal assistance is offered for preparing wills and power of attorney documents for Beaver County residents ages 60 and older. A sliding fee scale is used to determine the amount owed based on income amounts. Funding is limited and is offered on a first come, first served basis.

Mini Gardens

This project is designed to provide seniors with a gardening plot every spring and summer. Assistance for this ever-growing project is provided by BCOA and the Penn State Extension Master Gardeners. To learn more, call (724) 774-3003.

Ombudsman Service

The ombudsman investigates and resolves consumer complaints made by or on behalf of residents in nursing homes, boarding homes, domiciliary care homes and other long-term care services. Complaints may include any issue that affects the health, safety, welfare and rights of a resident. Staff and volunteers also perform visits to area facilities and train staff, residents and community residents about residents' rights. Call the Ombudsman at (724) 480-8589.

Personal Care and Home Health Services*

These services provide in-home assistance with activities of daily living such as bathing, grooming and mobility for persons with chronic health problems.



Protective Service

Protective Service responds to reports of suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment, inappropriate relocation and emergency/ crisis situations. A case manager will complete a report of need and if approved will conduct an investigation and provide any neccessary intervention. Call (724) 775-1786 or (800) 272-0567.

Respite Care*

Respite care service provides relief to families caring for and living with an senior homebound person and can provide personal care, if needed.

Senior Community Center Services

Three convenient locations in Baden, New Brighton and Monaca offer an array of activities and special programs, including computer and fitness classes, exercise equipment, health screenings, volunteer opportunities, educational and informational sessions, trips, lunches and more. For details, call Baden at (724) 869-4224, New Brighton at (724) 846-1959 or Monaca at (724) 728-1422.

Aliquippa and Midland Satellite Senior Center Services Centers are located in Aliquippa and Midland, offering lunch, socialization and bingo every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information, call Aliquippa at (724) 857-9989 or Midland at (724) 869-4224.



Senior Day

This themed event for seniors includes vendor exhibits, medical screenings, entertainment, refreshments and prizes. It is held from 10 a.m. to noon the second Wednesday of the month, February through November, either in the corridor of the Beaver Valley Mall or inside Center at the Mall, located in the Beaver Valley Mall. For a schedule, call (724) 847-2262.

Surprises for Shut-ins

This program provides holiday gifts and a friendly visit to shut-ins ages 60 and older who have been identified by BCOA care managers. Organizations and individuals are invited to donate year round for this holiday program.

Transportation

Beaver County residents ages 60 and older may utilize Beaver County Transit Authorities' DART system. This is a demandand-response transportation system offering door-to-door service for passengers. Reservations must be made in advance by calling BCTA. There is a co-pay for every trip. For details, call (724) 728-4255 or visit bcta.com.

*These programs require approval from a care manager.

Long-Term Living Alternatives

home is much more than a place to live. For many of us, it represents the place where we've nurtured our families, felt safe and created fond memories. It's no wonder that we want to remain in our homes for as long as possible as we age. But sometimes, experiencing physical or emotional challenges that come with getting older can make it difficult to continue living independently. We'd like to stay at home, but we need help doing so. That's where the Beaver County Office on Aging can help. BCOA and other community organizations offer various support and services to help older adults remain independent in their homes.

The programs outlined on the next few pages are available to residents of Beaver County. The first step in determining the appropriateness of these programs in relation to your needs is to have an assessment. There are two types of assessments: one for in-home services and another for placement in a nursing facility or personal care/Dom Care home. An assessment for in-home services is completed on all new referrals, as well as re-evaluations on existing cases. A care manager evaluates the person's unique needs and determines eligibility for appropriate services to meet those needs. Following the assessment, an individual care plan is developed with linkage to home-based community services.

A comprehensive assessment may also determine the appropriate clinical level of care for those seeking medical assistance funding for nursing home care or state subsidy for personal care or Dom Care. Nursing home assessments also include screening for mental illness, intellectual disability, and other related conditions to determine a need for specialized services. The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare is responsible for determining financial eligibility.

Here are the programs offered through the Beaver County Office on Aging. For details or to arrange for an assessment, call BCOA at one of the the numbers listed below.

OPTIONS

The OPTIONS program provides assistance to persons ages 60 and older who need help in order to remain independently in their own homes. The goal of the OPTIONS program is to give choices to consumers in need. The program provides a comprehensive assessment administered by BCOA staff. Appropriate additional information is obtained from the individual's primary care physician. The assessment information is reviewed, and care alternatives are identified and discussed with the consumer. A core plan is developed based on the individual's needs and choices.

Individuals who receive these services are age 60 or older and experiencing some degree of frailty in their physical or mental health. They range in functional need from being clinically eligible for services in a nursing facility to just needing basic personal care services such as assistance with bathing, dressing and grooming. The program is not an entitlement, but eligibility is based on need.

The OPTIONS program's broad range of home and community based services includes but is not limited to:

- respite care
- personal care
- adult day services
- emergency response systems
- in home meals
- home modifications/assistive devices
- shopping, laundry and light housekeeping



To qualify:

- Must be age 60 or older;
- Requires assistance with daily activities such as bathing, grooming, light housekeeping, meals or laundry.
- With the exception of services funded through Medicaid, there is no financial eligibility requirement for these services; however, a co-pay may be required. Verification of income and assets is also necessary.
- Individuals contribute to the cost of services based on their total monthly income, and that of the spouse who lives in the same household, if married.

For more information, call the Beaver County Office on Aging at (724) 847-2262 (local) or (888) 548-2262 (long distance).

Long-Term Living Alternatives

Long Term Services and Supports through Community Health Choices (CHC)

Under this program, home and community based long-term care services may be available to adults to enable them to continue to live in their homes and communities with services and supports.

To be eligible for Community Health Choices, you must:

- be a resident of Pennsylvania.
- be a US citizen or a qualified non-citizen.
- have a Social Security number.
- meet the level of care needs for a skilled nursing facility.
- meet the financial requirements as determined by your local County Assistance Office. (Estate Recovery may apply.)

Services available through Community Health Choices:

- Adult daily living services
- Community transition services
- Environmental modifications
- Financial management services
- Home-delivered meals
- Home health services
- Non-medical transportation services
- Participant-directed goods and services
- Participant-directed community supports
- Personal assistance services
- Physical therapy
- Personal emergency response systems
- Respite services
- Service coordination
- Speech therapy
- Specialized medical equipment and supplies
- TeleCare
- Therapeutic and counseling services



There is no cap on the services that Community Health Choices participants receive, no cost sharing and no contributions allowed. In order to qualify for Community Health Choices services, you must meet eligibility requirements. This includes a level of care assessment and a determination of financial eligibility. To get the process started, call the independent enrollment broker Maximus at (877) 550-4227. For more information, call the Beaver County Office on Aging at (724) 847-2262 (local) or (888) 548-2262 (long distance), or visit beavercountypa.gov/Depts/OOA.

Here is a checklist of items to include when applying for Community Health Choices, nursing home and cost sharing. These items need to be provided to the assessor for eligibility. If they are not, it could slow down the process when applying for different services.

Provide photocopies of the following:

- proof of date of birth, birth certificate, baptismal certificate or driver's license
- Social Security card
- health insurance cards
- proof of gross income (often participant and spouse) such as Social Security, pension, Railroad Retirement., VA, etc.
- burial funds
- life insurance
- bank accounts and liquid assets
- property deeds
- power of attorney or guardian papers

Long-Term Living Alternatives

Dom Care Program

Dom Care is an adult foster care program that matches people who cannot live independently with individuals or families willing to open their homes. Dom Care provides safe and supportive housing for older adults, as well as physically disabled, mentally ill and intellectually disabled residents age 18 and older in Beaver County.

Dom Care providers offer the following:

- meals
- assistance with daily activities
- personal care
- 24-hour supervision
- companionship

Dom Care homes are certified and inspected annually. CPR and first aid training is provided for all Dom Care providers.

Dom Care eligibility requirements:

- 18 years old or older
- unable to live alone
- difficulty with daily living activities
- independently mobile or semi-mobile
- willing to live with others

Nursing Home Transition and Long-Term Living Counseling (NHT and LTL)

Pennsylvania's Nursing Home Transition enables eligible nursing home residents to safely return to a more self-sufficient lifestyle by providing information about home and community based services through long-term living counseling.

Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) provide counseling on long-term living options and community based services to nursing home residents. LTL counseling includes working closely with family members and other information supports, facility staff and providers to make certain that the best LTL option, as determined by the individuals and family members, is available and accessible.

An individual may be considered for NHT if they are not scheduled to leave the Nursing Facility via the normal discharge process, have expressed a desire to relocate from the facility and meet one of the following criteria:

- The participant has resided in the Nursing Facility for 30 consecutive days and is receiving Medical Assistance for at least one day.
- The participant has a barrier that cannot be overcome through the normal discharge regardless of payer source or length of nursing home stay.



Caregiver Support Program

Caregiver Support programs are designed to reduce caregiver stress and burden. They are intended to help relatives and other adult primary caregivers of functionally dependent older adults (age 60 or older), relative caregivers of impaired adults (age 18 and older) with dementia, and older-relative caregivers (age 55 and older) of children (through age 18).

The programs are consumer-driven and flexible, supporting each family in ways that are specific to their needs and preferences. The program's range of services includes: needs assessment, care management and respite care, legal and benefits counseling, caregiver education and training, home modification, support groups and monetary help to purchase durable goods.

The three Caregiver Support Programs are:

- State Caregiver Support Program
- National Caregiver Support Program
- National Grandparent Support Program

Each has specific qualifications regarding age of care receiver and caregiver and their relationship. Reimbursement varies slightly among programs.

All Caregiver programs take a cost-sharing approach; incomeeligible families may receive assistance with out-of-pocket expenses ranging from respite care to adult briefs. In addition, one-time grants may be given to qualified families to assist in modifying the home or to purchase assistive devices. Such adaptations might include installing a stair glide or modifying a bathroom.

For more information on these programs and eligibility requirements, call (724) 847-2262 (local) or (888) 548-2262 (long distance), or visit beavercountypa.gov/Depts/OOA.

For other housing options, refer to pages 62-73.

Beaver County Day at the Mall

It is the #1 resource in Beaver County for personal, on the spot consultation and information for older adults all at one convenient location!

Join us

When: 10 a.m. to noon the second Wednesday of each month, February through November

Where: Either in the corridor of the Beaver Valley Mall or inside Center at the Mall at the Beaver Valley Mall.



- Obtain valuable information from a variety of agencies and businesses
 - Gain knowledge about services and benefits for older adults
 - Socialize with old friends and make new friends
 - Enjoy entertainment, coffee and doughnuts

Brought to you by the Beaver County Office on Aging and **Premier Sponsors:** Medic Rescue and Concordia Visiting Nurses.

Call the Beaver County Office on Aging at (724) 847-2262 (local) or (888) 548-2262 (long distance) for details and the location of the month.

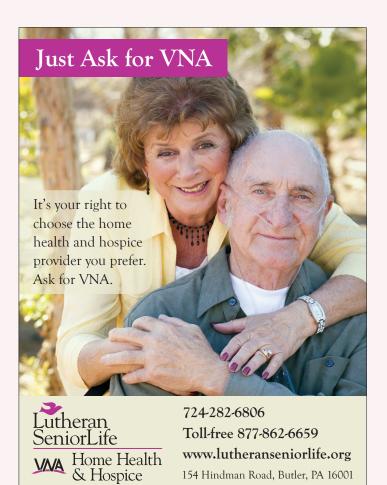
There is no charge for participants to attend the event, but donations are appreciated and used to support the event.

Caregiver's Support

any of us serve as caregivers at some point in our lives—especially as we grow older. If you unexpectedly find yourself in a caregiver role, please know that there are plenty of services out there to help you. This section of the Guide explains the many forms of support that can help keep your loved one living independently for as long as possible, while taking into consideration your needs as a caregiver.

Respite care (volunteer or paid), Home Health Agencies or in-home non-medical care may be the answer. Or you may decide to hire a geriatric care manager to arrange and oversee your loved one's care. Perhaps adult day care may be appropriate for your situation. This section will give you an overview of all of these services and more, and local resources for finding the support you need.

In addition, it includes helpful checklists, health screening information, tips on choosing a doctor and even making your hospital stay pleasant, if you or your loved one should need to spend time there. We are fortunate to have an abundance of these resources in Allegheny County; consider taking advantage of them. After all, you can't adequately care for someone else if you don't care for yourself, as well.



Online Training Videos/Resources

Caregiver Training Series: How to give a body bath. Demonstrates how to bathe your care receiver. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = 9VKox-wy4fU.

Changes in personality and Behavior in a demented patient. Tips on how to manage difficult behaviors and to deal with personality changes in individuals with dementia. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = m18shMbpsQQ.

Diversity in Caregiving: LGBT Caregivers. Due to societal discrimination, the LGBT community seeks support from supportive caregivers within the community. This video discusses how to care for each other and finding ways to be supported by employers. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = zArxah854Ng.

Family Caregiver Alliance's Caregiver College Videos.

- Chapter 1: Transfer Skills, tips and instructions on how to lift and transfer a loved one with limited mobility. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = oB0uPouIcXo.
- Chapter 2: Nutrition. Visit youtube.com/ watch?v = hrNpX913KkE.
- Chapter 3: Dental Care, information on assisting someone with oral care. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = xFG1jtf6Zdg.
- Chapter 4: Bathing and Dressing, caregiver's guide to bathing and dressing a loved one. Visit youtube.com/watch?v=lvQtjY3-bcE.
- Chapter 5: Toileting and Incontinence, give tips on helping someone with toileting. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = 4DvYE12CM0c.
- Chapter 6: Behavioral Issues, provides tips for caregivers on managing difficult behaviors. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = VDOJxKxNKsI.
- Chapter 7: Self-Care, describes the importance of selfcare in their role as caregiver. Visit youtube.com/ watch?v=zi gYDUfOKI.

How to manage your stress. Tips and strategies to managing stress and avoiding burnout. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = s2iOTptXD1M.

Practical Strategies for Lowering Caregiver Stress. Provides information about how to effectively manage stress for caregivers and how to care for a loved one with memory loss. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = p3AttEzv0FY.

Safe at Home: A Caregiver's Guide. Offers caregivers with simple, inexpensive suggestions for making basic home modifications and general home safety. The guide is intended for families caring for loved ones in the middle and advanced stages of dementia. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = uSUNMbQz59g.

Understanding Dementia: The Caregivers Notebook. Information on caring for an individual with Dementia. Visit youtube.com/watch?v = YDDSk-L-R90.

Caregiver's Support

Caregiver Websites

Caregiving is a big word that brings with it tremendous responsibility. The caregiving community encompasses not just healthcare and social support professionals but family, friends, partners and neighbors. Whether you are caring for a spouse, aging parent, dear friend or others in your community, the following websites can help. They each offer a wealth of information about various aspects of the caregiving experience.

AARP Home and Family Caregiving: aarp.org/home-family/ caregiving/

Agingcare.com: Agingcare.com

Caregiver Action Network: caregiveraction.org

Caregiver Stress: caregiverstress.com

Eldercare Locator: eldercare.gov

Family Caregiver Alliance: caregiver.org

Lotsa Helping Hands: lotsahelpinghands.com

National Alliance for Caregiving: caregiving.org

National Institute on Aging: nia.nih.gov

Pennsylvania Department of Aging: aging.pa.gov

Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving: rosalynncarter.org

Strength for Caring: strengthforcaring.com

This Caring Home: This Caring Home.org

United Hospital Fund: NextStepinCare.org

Well Spouse Association: wellspouse.org/

Caregiving Webinars

CaregiverStress.com. Provides a number of resources, tips and professional webinars. Visit caregiverstress.com/ caregiving-topics/.

asaging.org. Free webinars available to caregivers and professionals. Visit asaging.org/series/103/family-caregiversupport-web-seminar-series.

aarp.org. Educational webinars and additional caregiving tips and resources. Visit aarp.org/home-family caregiving/?intcmp = SKYBOX4ENG.

helpingyoucare.com. Provide lectures, courses and webinars for caregivers. Visit helpingyoucare.com/ caregiverscollege % E2 % 84 % A2/classes-courses-webinarsfor-caregivers.

caregivers.com. Free webinars for caregivers of veterans. caregivers.com/caregiver-wellness/caregiver-support-veterans/.



Ten Tips for Caregivers

- 1. Caregiving is a job and respite is your earned right. Reward yourself with respite breaks often.
- 2. Watch out for signs of depression, and don't delay in getting professional help when you need it.
- 3. When people offer to help, accept the offer and suggest specific things that they can do.
- 4. Educate yourself about your loved one's condition and how to communicate effectively with doctors.
- 5. There's a difference between caring and doing. Be open to technologies and ideas that promote your loved one's independence.
- 6. Trust your instincts. Most of the time they'll lead you in the right direction.
- 7. Caregivers often do a lot of lifting, pushing and pulling. Be good to your back.
- 8. Grieve for your losses and then allow yourself to dream new dreams.
- 9. Seek support from other caregivers. There is great strength in knowing that you are not alone.
- 10. Stand up for your rights as a caregiver and a citizen.

Provided by the National Family Caregivers Association.

Caregiver's Support

Caregiver Support Books

A Caregiver's Challenge: Living, Loving, Letting Go by Maryann Schacht, MSW

ISBN: 0976414007, \$16.95 (hospice price \$9.95)

This book is a caregiver's survival guide for adjusting to the changes that occur when a loved one falls seriously ill.

A Caregiver's Survival guide: How to Stay Healthy when your Loved One is Sick

by Kay Marshall Strom **ISBN:** 0-8308-2230-5, \$16

Aging Families and Caregiving

by Sara Qualls and Steven Zarit ISBN-13: 978-0470008553

This guide provides guidance for caregivers, families and those who counsel them on managing caregiving challenges for aging family members.

Passages in Caregiving: Turning Chaos into Confidence

by Gail Sheehy

ISBN: 978-0-06-166121-1, \$16.99

Self-Care for Caregivers: A Twelve-Step Approach

by Pat Samples

ISBN: 978-1568385600, \$14.95

This down-to-earth, encouraging book can help you make the most of your caregiving experience without losing yourself in the process. It discusses the pitfalls of caregiving—the emotional strain, daily struggles, competing needs and questions about confronting pain—and provides suggestions on how to stay strong and sane while offering healthy support and love.

The American Medical Association Guide to Home Caregiving ISBN: 978-0471414094, \$14.95

Angela Perry, MD and the AMA draw upon the experience and advice of experts to address the emotional and practical aspects faced in home care: basic and special caregiving skills, choosing and paying a provider, long-term care, nursing home care, care for the caregiver and more.

The Caregiver's Survival Handbook: Caring for Your Aging Parents Without Losing Yourself

by Alexis Abramson and Mary Anne Dunkin

ISBN-13: 978-0399529986, \$15.95

The author, an aging expert who frequently appears on the *Today Show*, offers advice on various healthcare issues, as well as the emotional aspects of caregiving—guilt, frustration, anger, fatigue and burnout. Written especially for women who are caring for parents and children while maintaining a home and working.

The Emotional Survival Guide for Caregivers: Looking After Yourself and Your Family While Helping an Aging Parent

by Barry J. Jacobs ISBN-13: 978-1572307292

For anyone with the responsibility of caring for a sick or disabled parent, this clear-eyed guide will be of real assistance. The author is the director of behavioral sciences for the Crozer-Keystone Family Medicine Residency Program in Pennsylvania.

Adult Day Services

Adult day services provide welcome relief to caregivers, as well as a wealth of activities for seniors in need of social interaction. Additionally, most adult day care centers offer daily lunch, group trips, classes such as cooking and crafting, and visits from beauticians, podiatrists and manicurists, to name a few. For more details, contact the adult day services program nearest you.

LIFE Beaver County

CenterPlace Plaza 131 Pleasant Dr., Ste. 1 Aliquippa, PA 15001 (724) 378-5400 lutheranseniorlife.org

Lutheran SeniorLife Valley Care Adult Day Services

345 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003 (724) 266-9626 lutheranseniorlife.org

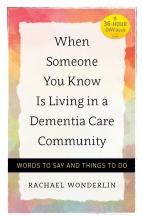
Lutheran SeniorLife Valley Care Adult Day Services

650 Cherrington Parkway Moon Township, PA 15108 (412) 264-0104 lutheranseniorlife.org

Dementia By Day, LLC

A dementia care consulting business by author and dementia caregiving expert, Rachael Wonderlin





In need of staff training, workshops, or one-on-one dementia care guidance?

Rachael Wonderlin has a Master's in Gerontology and owns Dementia By Day, LLC. Her book, "When Someone You Know is Living in a Dementia Care Community," was published in 2016 by Johns Hopkins University Press. Rachael speaks nationally on dementia caregiving to both professionals and family caregivers.

NOW OFFERING HOUR-LONG Q&A PHONE CALLS FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS!

EMAIL RACHAEL AT RACHAEL@DEMENTIABYDAY.COM



Living to serve residents of Beaver County through a full continuum of care.



Center at the Mall

Senior center and therapy services at Beaver Valley Mall.

VNA, Western Pennsylvania

Home Care & Hospice programs

Lutheran Service Society

Meals on Wheels, Senior Centers, HUD housing.

LIFE Beaver County

Living Independence for the Elderly in partnership with Heritage Valley Health System.

SilverSmart™ Technology

Technology assistance for seniors, including home assessments, hotline for questions, catalogue of devices and technology tips.

Valley Care Adult Day Center

Adult day center services in Ambridge and Moon Township.

Live an Abundant Life®

Home Health Agencies

Getting Started

Usually, once your doctor refers you for home health services, staff from the home health agency will come to your home to talk to you about your needs and ask some questions about your health. The home health agency will also talk to your doctor about your care and keep him updated about your progress. Doctor's orders are needed to start care.

Your Plan of Care

The home health agency will work with you and your doctor to develop your plan of care. A plan of care lists the services that are appropriate for your health issues. You have the right to be involved in any decisions about your treatment. Your plan of care should include answers to the following questions:

- What services do you need?
- What healthcare professionals should provide these services?
- How often you will need the services?
- What medical equipment will you need?
- What results does your doctor expect from your treatment?

Your doctor and home health agency staff should review your plan of care as often as necessary (at least once every 60 days). If your health issues change, the home health staff should tell your doctor right away. The home health agency should only change your plan of care with your physician's approval and should also tell you about any changes to it. If you have questions about your care or feel that your needs aren't being met, talk to both your doctor and the home health agency.

Home Health Agencies

Allegheny Health Network Gallagher Home Health **Healthcare at Home**

(888) 599-7328

Anova Health Care System

(888) 266-8211

Care Unlimited

(800) 535-3747

(866) 683-7800

Progressive Home Health (724) 774-8245

Lutheran SeniorLife **VNA Western PA**

(877) 862-6659

Concordia Visiting Nurses (866) 869-8669

We all want to maintain the best possible health while remaining independent in our own homes. Home health agencies, or HHAs, help older adults meet this goal by providing healthcare services to ill, disabled or vulnerable individuals right in their residences.

HHAs offer services such as:

- physical, occupational and speech therapy.
- personal caregivers.
- home health aides and nursing.
- social work.



Medicare may pay for services provided by HHAs that are approved for certification by the Federal Health and Human Services' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). See bottom left column for a partial list of HHAs licensed by the Department of Health in Pennsylvania.

Who can get Medicare-covered home healthcare?

If your doctor decides that you need medical care at home and the home health agency caring for you is Medicarecertified, you can receive services. You must need skilled care services and must be homebound, or unable to leave home without help.

What services does home healthcare cover?

Skilled care services—that is, services and care that can only be performed by a registered or licensed practical nurse.

Home health aide services—these aides support the nurse by providing help with personal care tasks.

Physical therapy—includes exercise to regain movement and strengthen a body area, and training on how to do daily activities.

Speech-language therapy—to regain and strengthen speech skills.

Occupational therapy—to help with usual daily activities, including learning new ways to eat, put on clothes, etc.

Medical social services—to help you with social and emotional concerns related to an illness.

Certain medical supplies—like wound dressing (but not prescription drugs).

Durable medical equipment—such as a wheelchair or walker.

Who orders services?

Most often, your doctor, social worker or hospital discharge planner will help arrange for Medicare-covered home health care. You have a say, however, about which home healthcare agency you use.

Visit medicare.gov for details about home healthcare coverage and Medicare benefits.



Skilled Nursing/MHRN - Palliative Care Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy Social Work - Home Health Aides

Call Us First - We Can Help! 412-279-7800 www.GallagherHHS.com

Home Health Agencies Checklist

Questions to consider when looking for a home health agency:	Comments
1. How long has the agency been serving the community?	
2. Does the agency have printed brochures describing the services it offers and how much they cost? If so, ask for one.	
3. Is the agency an approved Medicare provider?	
4. Is the agency's quality of care certified by a national accrediting body such as the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations?	
5. Does the agency have a current license to practice (if required in the state where you live)?	
6. Does the agency offer a "patient's bill of rights" that describes the rights and responsibilities of both the agency and the senior being cared for?	
7. Does the agency write a plan of care for the patient (with input from the patient, his/her doctor and family), and update the plan as necessary?	
8. Does the care plan outline the patient's course of treatment, describing specific tasks to be performed by each caregiver?	
9. How closely do supervisors oversee care to ensure quality?	
10. Will agency caregivers keep family members informed about the kind of care their loved one is getting?	
11. Are agency staff members available around the clock, seven days a week, if necessary?	
12. Does the agency have a nursing supervisor available to provide on-call assistance 24 hours a day?	
13. How does the agency ensure patient confidentiality?	
14. How are agency caregivers hired and trained?	
15. What is the procedure for resolving problems when they occur, and who can you call with questions or complaints?	
16. How does the agency handle billing?	
17. Is there a sliding fee schedule based on ability to pay, and is financial assistance available to pay for services?	
18. Will the agency provide a list of references for its caregivers?	
19. Who does the agency call if the home healthcare worker cannot come when scheduled?	
20. What type of employee screening is done?	



In-Home Service, Non-Medical Care

Even as we grow older and potentially have to deal with challenging healthcare issues, we still want to remain confident and comfortable in our own homes. Private duty home care is a type of non-medical home care service that enables older adults to do just that.

Non-medical home care can include:

- meal preparation
- personal care
- light housekeeping
- grocery shopping
- local transportation
- laundry
- medication reminders

Services can be rendered on either a short- or long-term basis right in your residence. Fees vary so contact the individual provider for rates and payment information.

In-Home Service, Non-Medical Care provided in Beaver County:

Care Unlimted

(800) 535-3747

Concordia Visiting Nurses

(866) 869-8669

Gallagher Home Health

(412) 279-7800

(866) 683-7800

Heart 2 Heart Home Care

(724) 775-1118

Homemaker Home Health Aide

(724) 774-4002

Lutheran SeniorLife BeHome Partners (724) 282-6806

When I receive my home healthcare:	Yes	No	Comments
1. The staff is polite and treats me and my family members with respect.			
2. The staff explains my plan of care to me and my family, lets us participate in creating this plan, and informs us ahead of time about any changes.			
3. The staff is properly trained and licensed to perform the type of healthcare I need.			
4. The agency explains what to do if I have a problem with the staff or the care I am getting.			
5. The agency responds quickly to my requests.			
6. The staff checks my physical and emotional status at each visit.			
7. The staff responds quickly to changes in my health or behavior.			
8. The staff checks my home and suggests changes to meet my special needs and ensure my safety.			
9. The staff has told me what to do if I have an emergency.			
10. The agency and its staff protect my privacy.			

In-Home Service, Non-Medical Care

"Personal Directions for Quality Living" Form

The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care has a useful form called "My Personal Directions for Quality Living" that can be used by anyone for their personal directed care. The form encourages communication between those who might need care and those who provide care. The form lists 14 categories where (potential) care receivers can write in their wishes. Fill out the form, sign and date it, and give a copy to your family so they can share it, as the need arises, with your caregivers. The form can be downloaded at the consumer voice.org/uploads/files/family-member/My-Personal-Directions-Blank-Format.pdf.

• I want my caregivers to know	
• the way I like to awaken and begin my day	
• the way I relax and prepare to sleep at night	
• activities I enjoy	
• things I would like to have in my room	
• foods that I enjoy for comfort and fun	
• things I do not like	
• I become anxious when	
• things that calm or soothe me	
• things that make me laugh	
• religious preference	
• at the end of my life I would like	
• for more information about me, please talk to	
• other	
Notes:	

Hospice Care

Hospice provides support and special care for a person at the end of life or in the final phase of an incurable illness. Hospice neither advances nor postpones death but recognizes dying as a normal part of life. Under hospice care, individuals can live their last days as comfortably and fully as possible; the patient and family are able to prepare for death both mentally and spiritually. A doctor is required to prepare a hospice order but a team of people are involved in providing hospice services, including physicians, hospice medical directors, nurses, aides, social workers, spiritual counselors and volunteers.

A quick FAQ about hospice care:

Who qualifies for hospice care? Any person who has a lifethreatening or terminal illness.

How does hospice care work? Typically, a family member serves as the primary caregiver and, when appropriate, helps make decisions for the terminally ill individual. The hospice staff makes regular visits to assess the patient and provide additional care. Hospice staff is on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Is the patient's home the only place where care can be delivered? No. The majority of hospice patients are cared for in their own homes but also in homes of loved ones, nursing homes, personal care homes and prisons.

Is hospice care covered by insurance? Eighty percent of people who use hospice care are ages 65 and older, and are thus entitled to services offered by the Medicare Hospice Benefit.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health.





Learn more about hospice care:

National Association for Home Care and Hospice (202) 547-7424 nahc.org

The National Association for Home Care and Hospice is the nation's largest trade association representing the interests and concerns of home care agencies, hospices and home care aide organizations. This association distributes a number of general information publications about hospice through its website, including the history of hospice care, home care and hospice locator, the hospice patient's bill of rights.

Hospice Foundation of America

(800) 854-3402 hospicefoundation.org

This foundation's website offers a hospice locator, as well as a variety of helpful information about hospice, end-of-life issues, hospice services and expenses, books/DVDs on grieving, a self-study course and more.

MedlinePlus

nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus

MedlinePlus is the National Institutes of Health's website for patients and their families and friends. On this site, you will find information about health issues that you can trust. Produced by the National Library of Medicine, it is a wealth of free information about diseases, conditions and wellness. Refer to MedlinePlus to learn about the latest treatments, research information on medications and health supplements, view medical videos and more.

Hospice Care

	Questions to ask when looking for a hospice program.	Comments
1.	Is the hospice licensed?	
2.	What type of services are provided?	
3.	What kind of support is available to the family/caregiver?	
4.	What roles do the attending physician and hospice play?	
5.	What does the hospice volunteer do?	
6.	How does hospice work to keep the patient comfortable?	
7.	How are services provided after hours?	
8.	How and where does hospice provide short-term, in-patient care?	
9.	Can hospice be provided in a nursing home or long-term care facility?	

Information provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

United States Department of Labor (866) 487-2365

If you are responsible for caring for an immediate family member (spouse, child or parent) with a serious health condition, you may be eligible under the Family and Medical Leave Act for up to a total of 12 work weeks of unpaid leave during any

12-month period. You may qualify for the same if you need to take a medical leave because you are unable to work due to a serious health condition.

The law applies to companies who have 50 or more employees and to those employees who have received 52 pays.

To learn more, visit dol.gov/whd/fmla/index.htm.

Hospices in Beaver County:

Allegheny Network Hospice

(888) 599-7328

Anova Hospice

(724) 483-3812

Aseracare Hospice

(800) 570-5975

Bethany Hospice of

Western PA

(412) 921-2209

Catholic Hospice

(724) 933-6222

Concordia Lutheran

Ministries

(888) 352-1571

Family Hospice and **Palliative Care**

(412) 572-8800

Gateway Hospice

(877) 878-2244

Good Samaritan Hospice

(724) 933-8888

Heartland Hospice

(724) 776-3933

Hope Hospice, Inc.

(877) 367-3685

Lutheran SeniorLife

VNA Hospice

(724) 282-6806

Medi Home Health and

Hospice

(866) 273-6334

Mother Teresa Hospice

(724) 775-2040

Southern Care Inc.

(724) 652-2934

Palliative Care

What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care is for a person of any age and at any stage in an illness, whether that illness is curable, chronic or lifethreatening. Palliative care basically relieves or soothes the symptoms of a disease and can be provided by one doctor while other doctors work with a patient to try and cure an illness. Getting such care can actually help a patient recover from an illness by relieving pain, anxiety or loss of appetite when undergoing medical treatments or procedures such as surgery or chemotherapy. Palliative care can be provided at a hospital, nursing home, assisted living facility or in one's home.

The palliative team:

- provides relief from pain and other uncomfortable symptoms.
- assists in making difficult medical decisions.
- coordinates care with other doctors and helps to navigate the often-complex healthcare system.
- helps to make a plan for living well and provides emotional and spiritual support.

Source: palliativedoctors.org

Screenings/Preventative Health

Screening Tests for Adults Ages 50 and Older

Screenings are medical tests that look for diseases before you have symptoms. These tests can find diseases early when they are easier to treat. Getting recommended screenings is one of the most important things you can do for your health. Health experts from the US Preventive Services Task Force have made the following recommendations about which screening tests you need and when to get them.

- Abdominal aortic aneurysm. If you are a male between ages 65 and 75, and have ever been a smoker, talk with your doctor about being screened.
- **Breast cancer.** Women should have a mammogram every one to two years.
- **Cervical cancer.** Women should have a Pap smear every one to three years. After 65, check with your doctor.
- **Colorectal cancer.** Have a test for colorectal cancer.
- **Depression.** If you feel sadness or hopelessness that lasts two weeks or longer, talk to your doctor about being screened for depression.
- **Diabetes.** Have a blood test for diabetes if you have high blood pressure.
- **High blood pressure.** Have your blood pressure checked at least every two years.
- **High cholesterol.** Have your cholesterol checked regularly.
- **Obesity.** Have your body mass index (BMI) calculated to screen for obesity. Calculate your own BMI at nhlbisupport.com/bmi/.
- **Osteoporosis.** Women should have a bone density test at age 65 to screen for osteoporosis.

A Dose of Prevention

- **Aspirin.** Ask your doctor about taking aspirin to prevent heart disease.
- Immunizations. Adults ages 65 and older should get flu and pneumococcal shots. You can prevent other serious diseases, such as pneumonia, whooping cough and shingles by being vaccinated

with a flu shot. Individuals under age 65 who have chronic illness such as heart or lung disease, diabetes or endstage renal disease should get a flu shot. Those at risk for Hepatitis B should get Hepatitis B shots. You need a flu shot every year. Talk with your doctor about the vaccines you need and when to get them or visit cdc.gov.

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services, healthfinder.gov.

Warning Signs of Heart Attack, Stroke, Depression and Dementia

Heart attack:

- Tightness in chest
- Pain in arm(s)
- Shortness of breath
- Women generally have indigestion and nausea, fatigue, rapid heart beat, shoulder pains and, in some cases, no noticeable warning signs.

It is important to seek medical attention immediately when signs of a heart attack or stroke occur. If you experience signs of either, dial 911 immediately.

Ongoing, it's important to receive physical exams on a regular basis, and to adopt a healthy lifestyle—including a balanced, low-fat/high-fiber diet, increased physical activity, and no tobacco use. This will reduce your risk of heart attacks and strokes. For more information, visit the American Heart Association at americanheart.org, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at cdc.gov, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute at nhlbi.nih.gov or National Stroke Association at stroke.org.

Stroke:

- Sudden muscle weakness, numbness or paralysis in face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
- Sudden blurry vision or loss of vision in one or both eyes
- Confusion or trouble speaking or understanding simple statements
- Sudden trouble walking
- Dizziness, loss of balance or coordination

- Sudden severe headache with no known cause
- Sudden nausea, fever and vomiting
- Brief loss of or decreased consciousness (fainting, confusion, convulsions or coma)

Depression:

- Sadness, hopelessness or helplessness
- Fatigue or slowed movement
- Unexplained or aggravated aches and pains
- Lack of interest in personal care, hobbies and pastimes
- Social withdrawal and isolation
- Weight loss or loss of appetite
- Sleep disturbances
- Memory problems
- Loss of self-worth
- Increased use of alcohol or other drugs
- Fixation on death, suicidal thoughts or attempts

Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease:

- · Slow mental decline
- Confusion, disorientation, becomes lost in familiar locations
- Difficulty with short-term memory
- Doesn't notice memory problems or seem to care
- General confusion, disorientation to date, time or place
- Apathy, irritability, depression, anxiety
- Problems with language, math, abstract thinking and judgment
- Personality changes with strange quirks or inappropriate behaviors
- Wandering or hiding objects
- Problems with eating and sleeping

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health and National Institutes of Health.

Choosing a Doctor

Choosing a Doctor

There are many reasons why you might be looking for a new doctor. You may have moved or your doctor could be retiring. The following ideas can help you find a doctor who is right for you.

Type of Doctor

For your primary care doctor, you might want one of the following:

- **General practitioners** provide healthcare for a wide range of medical problems. They do not focus on any one area of
- **Family practitioners** have extra training on healthcare for all family members, regardless of age.
- Internists are doctors for adults. Some internists take additional training to become specialists. For example, cardiologists are internists who specialize in diseases of the heart.
- **Geriatricians** specialize in the care of older adults.

Finding a New Doctor

Ask people you know about doctors they use and like. Friends, coworkers and other health professionals may be helpful. A doctor whose name comes up often might be a good one to try. If you need more help finding names of doctors, contact a local hospital or medical center, medical society, physician referral service, or nearby medical schools. If you belong to a managed care plan, you can get a list of doctors from the plan's membership services office.

What to Look for in a Doctor

Board certification. Board certified doctors have extra training after medical school to become specialists in a field of medicine such as family practice, internal medicine, or geriatrics.

Communication. You want a doctor who will listen carefully to your concerns, answer your questions, and explain things clearly and fully.

Type of health insurance. Does the doctor accept your insurance plan?

Location. Will it be easy for you to get to the doctor's office?

Lab work. Will you need to go to another location for blood tests or are lab tests done in the doctor's office?

Coverage. Who sees patients for the doctor if he is out of town or not available?

Once You've Found a New Doctor

Once you've found a doctor you like, your job is not finished. A good doctor-patient relationship is a partnership. Both you and your doctor should work together to solve your medical problems and maintain your good health.

Source: National Institute on Aging, nia.nih.gov.

Geriatric Medicine

geriatrician is a physician trained in the care of older adults. A geriatrician will complete an assessment of a potential patient, and may work in tandem with the patient's primary care doctor to provide care. Alternatively, a geriatrician can serve as a patient's primary care doctor. In either case, geriatricians work with their staff to gather a team of caregivers, as needed—including psychiatrists, social workers, nurses, pharmacists and therapists.

When do you need a geriatric assessment?

If you:

- need a comprehensive baseline evaluation of your current existing health concerns.
- are dealing with multiple medical problems, including mental and emotional changes that often accompany physical illness.
- have feelings of depression or excessive worry.
- are experiencing persistent confusion or memory loss.
- have problems with bladder control.
- are having frequent or serious falls or problems with balance.
- your primary care physician needs to know how to better manage your declining health or frailty.

What does a geriatric assessment include?

- Functional assessment
- Cognitive (reasoning/judgment) assessment
- · Gait (walking/balance) assessment
- Depression screening
- · Medication review
- · Long-term care placement assessment
- · Need for support services assessment
- Recommendation of long-term care facilities
- Help to prepare an older adult for a move to another level

Above information provided by the Aging Institute of Pittsburgh. Call (866) 430-8742 or visit aging.umpc.com.

To learn more, contact one of the following:

Benedum Geriatric Center

UPMC Montefiore, Four East 200 Lothrop St. Oakland, PA 15213 (412) 692-4200 upmc.com

UPMC Shadyside Senior Care

5200 Centre Ave., Suite 405 Shadyside, PA 15232 (412) 623-2700 upmc.com

Heritage Valley Beaver

1000 Dutch Ridge Rd. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 728-7000 heritagevalley.org

Heritage Valley Sewickley

720 Blackburn Rd. Sewickley, PA 15143 (412) 741-6600 heritagevalley.org

Planned Hospitalization Tips

Tips for Your Hospital Stay

Has your doctor said that you need a medical test that must be done in the hospital? Do you need surgery? Most people worry when they have to stay overnight in the hospital. Learning more about what to expect and about people who work in hospitals can help.

What to Bring

It's best to bring as little as you can to the hospital. You will need:

- Bathrobe and slippers; most hospitals provide special hospital bed clothes.
- Comfortable clothes to wear home.
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, comb and brush, deodorant and razor.
- Your hearing aids or eye glasses.
- Cash (no more than \$10) to buy newspapers or magazines.

Be sure to bring your health insurance card and this updated information:

- Past illnesses and surgeries.
- Your medicines, including prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
- Your allergies.
- Names and telephone numbers to contact in an emergency.

Admission

Once your hospital stay is planned, many hospitals will have a staff member call to ask pre-admissions questions over the phone. Then when you go to the hospital, many of the forms are already filled in. Your first stop at the hospital is the admitting office. You will sign forms that:

- give the hospital details about yourself, your doctor and your insurance.
- explain your surgery, test or procedure.
- give your okay for the medical staff to treat you.

You will be asked about advance directives. If you don't have health insurance, talk with the admissions staff about other payment methods and sources of financial aid. A hospital bracelet will be put on your wrist. Look at the bracelet to make sure your information is correct.

Hospital Staff

While you are in the hospital, many people will take care of you.

- Doctors are in charge of your overall care. The doctor in charge may be your primary doctor, a specialist on the hospital staff or a hospitalist who is trained to take care of you while you are in the hospital.
- Many kinds of nurses can take care of you. RNs can give medicines, licensed practical nurses can help feed you and nurse's aides can help with personal care.
- Respiratory therapists prevent and treat breathing problems. They teach exercises that help avoid lung infections after surgery.
- Technicians can take blood or perform tests such as X-rays.
- Physical therapists show you how to build muscle, increase flexibility and improve coordination.
- Occupational therapists work with you to restore, maintain or improve the ability to perform everyday tasks like cooking, eating, bathing or dressing.
- Dietitians can plan menus and teach you how to have well-balanced meals at home.
- Clinical pharmacists may be consulted about the medicines you take.
- Social workers assist you and your family. They can help find home care, rehabilitation, social services, long-term care and support groups.

Safety Tips

Because you may feel weak or tired, follow these safety tips.

- If you are told to stay in bed, use the call button when you need help.
- Use the controls to lower your bed before getting in or out.
- Sit on the edge of the bed for a minute before standing up.
- Watch out for the wires and tubes that may be around your bed.
- Try to keep the things you need within reach.

- Only take medicines given to you by nurses. Don't take medicine you brought from home without your doctor's permission.
- Hold onto grab bars for support when using the bathtub, shower or toilet.

For Families and Caregivers

A hospital stay can be very hard for older people. Often the strange routine and lack of sleep can cause confusion. Family and caregivers may be the first to notice these changes. Families should talk to a doctor if they see any confusion. During your hospital stay, you may have questions about what's happening. You may want to ask your doctor or nurse:

- What will this test tell you? Why is it needed and when will you know the results?
- What treatment is needed and how long will it last?
- What are the benefits and risks of treatment?
- When can I go home?
- When I go home, will I have to change my regular activities or my diet?
- How often will I need checkups?
- Is any other follow-up needed?
- Who should I call if I have questions?

Dissatisfied with the Quality of Your Healthcare?

If you are denied admission to a hospital, are asked to leave a hospital before you feel well enough or are dissatisfied with the quality of the medical care you received from a medical provider, call Livanta at (866) 815-5440.

Going Home

When you are ready to go home, you'll get discharge plans from the medical team and a release form from the hospital business office. Sometimes people go from the hospital to a rehabilitation center before going home. The social worker can help you go home or arrange admission to a rehab center.

Source: National Institute on Aging

Hospitals

These days, hospitals don't just treat those who are ill. Most hospitals have made it part of their mission to provide people with the tools to remain healthy and prevent illness. They help people to not only remain or become physically well but emotionally and psychologically well, too. From classes on heart-healthy and diabetic diets to smoking cessation, there is something for everyone.

Hospitals have workshops for cancer survivors and weight loss, and support groups for those in grief or with debilitating diseases, just to name a few. Particularly for seniors, many hospitals offer senior referral services and volunteer opportunities. To find out more about what your local hospital offers, call its main information line.

Beaver County Hospital

Heritage Valley Beaver 1000 Dutch Ridge Rd. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 728-7000 heritagevalley.org

Butler County Hospitals

Butler Health System

One Hospital Way Butler, PA 16001 (724) 283-6666 butlerhealthsystem.org

VA Butler Healthcare

325 New Castle Rd. Butler, PA 16001 (724) 287-4781 (800) 362-8262 butler.va.gov

UPMC Passavant Cranberry

1 Saint Francis Way Cranberry Township, PA 16066 (724) 772-5300 upmc.com

Lawrence County Hospital

Ellwood City Hospital 724 Pershing St.

Ellwood City, PA 16117 (724) 752-0081 theellwoodcityhospital.org

Allegheny County Hospitals

Allegheny General Hospital

320 E. North Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15212 (412) 359-3131 ahn.org

Allegheny Valley Hospital

1301 Carlisle St. Natrona Heights, PA 15065 (724) 224-5100 ahn.org

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC

4401 Penn Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15224 (412) 692-5325 chp.edu

Forbes Hospital

2570 Havmaker Rd. Monroeville, PA 15146 (412) 858-2000 ahn.org

HealthSouth Harmarville

320 Guys Run Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15238 (412) 828-1300 healthsouth.com

HealthSouth Sewickley

303 Camp Meeting Rd. Sewickley, PA 15143 (412) 741-9500 healthsouth.com

Heritage Valley Sewickley

720 Blackburn Rd. Sewickley, PA 15143 (412) 741-6600 heritagevalley.org

Jefferson Hospital 565 Coal Valley Rd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15025 (Jefferson Hills) (412) 469-5000 ahn.org

Kindred Hospital

Long-Term Acute Care Specialty Hospital 7777 Steubenville Pike Oakdale, PA 15071 (412) 494-5500 kindredhospitalpittsburgh. com

Life Care Hospital of Pittsburgh

2380 McGinlev Rd. Monroeville, PA 15146 (412) 856-2400

Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC

300 Halket St. Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Oakland) (412) 641-1000 magee.edu

Ohio Valley Hospital

25 Heckel Rd. McKees Rocks, PA 15136 (412) 777-6161 ohiovalleyhospital.org

St. Clair Hospital

1000 Bower Hill Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15243 (Mt. Lebanon) (412) 942-4000 stclair.org

UPMC East

2775 Mosside Blvd. Monroeville, PA 15146 (412) 357-3000 upmc.com

UPMC McKeesport

1500 Fifth Ave. McKeesport, PA 15132 (412) 664-2000 upmc.com

UPMC Mercy

1400 Locust St. Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 232-8111 upmc.com

UPMC Montefiore

3459 Fifth Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (412) 647-2345 upmc.com

UPMC Passavant 9100 Babcock Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15237 (McCandless) (412) 367-6700 upmc.com

UPMC Presbyterian

200 Lothrop St. Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Oakland) (412) 647-2345 upmc.com

UPMC Shadyside

5230 Centre Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15232 (412) 623-2121 upmc.com

UPMC St. Margaret

815 Freeport Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15215 (Aspinwall) (412) 784-4000 upmc.com

VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

H. John Heinz III Progressive Care Center 1010 Delafield Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15215 (Aspinwall) (866) 482-7488 pittsburgh.va.gov

VA Pittsburgh **Healthcare System**

Highland Drive Division 7180 Highland Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (East Liberty) (866) 482-7488 pittsburgh.va.gov

VA Pittsburgh **Healthcare System**

University Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15240 (Oakland) (866) 482-7488 pittsburgh.va.gov

West Penn Hospital

4800 Friendship Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15224 (Bloomfield) (412) 578-5000 wpahs.org

Western Psychiatric **Institute and Clinic of UPMC**

3811 O'Hara St. Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Oakland) (412) 624-1000 upmc.com

Mental Health



Beaver County Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

1070 Eighth Ave., Second Floor Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 847-6225 Direct Services Unit (DSU): (724) 891-2827 bcbh.org

Beaver County Behavioral Health and Developmental Services is charged with the responsibility to encourage a seamless system of care that is accessible, continuously available and emphasizes health promotion, prevention, early intervention, resiliency, recover and rehabilitation.

Crisis Help-Line

UPMC-Western Psychiatric

176 Virginia Ave. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 371-8060 or (800) 400-6180

A telephone hotline and walk-in crisis services are provided from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week for individuals in crisis. Services include screening calls, counseling, consultation, referral, face-to-face assessment and crisis resolution.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Keystone Pennsylvania

105 Braunlich Dr., Suite 200 Pittsburgh, PA 15237 (412) 366-3788 (888) 264-7972 namiswpa.org

Provides support groups, education and advocacy for individuals with mental illness and their families to assist in taking steps towards recovery. Call to locate a support group in Allegheny County.

Value Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania

(877) 688-5970 vbh-pa.com

A managed care organization that provides behavioral health services for individuals receiving medical assistance in Beaver County.

American Red Cross

Beaver/Lawrence Chapter 133 Friendship Circle Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-9700 redcross.org

Provides emergency shelter, food and emotional counseling to address basic human needs affected or eliminated due to disasters, as well as basic assistance, help with long-term recovery and information and referral service.

Beaver County Victim Services

Beaver County District Attorney's Office Beaver County Courthouse 810 Third St. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 773-8570

The job of the Victim/Witness Office is to ensure that victims and witnesses of crime know of the rights and services afforded them by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and to ensure that they receive them.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

(800) 273-8255 suicidepreventionlifeline.org

This free, confidential 24-hour hotline is available to anyone in suicide crisis or emotional distress. Calls are routed to the nearest crisis center near you.

Warmline

Mental Health Association in Beaver County

105 Brighton Ave. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 775-9507 (877) 775-9276 (outside of Beaver County) mhabc.org

Feeling lonely and need someone to talk to? Peer to peer support is offered to those who receive mental health and drug and alcohol services, including their families and friends. Calls received from 6 to 9 p.m., 365 days a year, including weekends and holidays.

Mental Health Association in Beaver County

105 Brighton Ave. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 775-4165 mhabc.org

This association works to promote good mental health and improved attitudes toward mental illness by providing a range of rehabilitation, advocacy, education and support services.

Women's Center of Beaver County

PO Box 428 Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-0131 womenscenterbc.org

Crisis counseling for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Provides education and community outreach shelter. Available 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. All calls are confidential.

Hearing Assistance



Center for Hearing and Deaf Services (HDS)

1945 Fifth Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Voice/TTY (412) 281-1375 hdscenter.org

Provides a diverse, affordable program of diagnostic, rehabilitative and supportive services to individuals who are deaf or hearing impaired—such as audiological screenings, hearing aid fittings and assistive devices. Donations of used hearing aids are accepted for those who cannot afford the cost of a new one.

Hamilton Relay Services

Dial 711 (800) 654-5988 TTY (800) 654-5984 hamiltonrelay.com/state_711_relay/state.html

Hamilton Relay provides traditional relay services for Pennsylvania including TTY, Voice Carry Over (VCO), Hearing Carry Over (HCO), Speech-to-Speech (STS), Spanish-to-Spanish and CapTel®.

Hear Now

(800) 328-8602 starkeyhearingfoundation.org

Provides hearing aids to deaf and hard-of-hearing persons with limited financial resources.

Hear Now receives no government funding and is supported through private contributions. For this reason, all other options for hearing assistance service must be exhausted before a Hear Now benefit is approved.

PA Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH)

1521 North 6th St. Harrisburg, PA 17102 Voice/TTY (800) 233-3008 dli.pa.gov/odhh

Provides information, referral and advocacy to adults and children who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind, as well as their employees, relatives, friends, caregivers, physicians and lawyers.

Telecommunications Device Distribution Program (TDDP)

Community Living and Support Services (CLASS)

1400 South Braddock Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15218 (412) 683-7100 ext. 2179 TTY (412) 426-2255 classcommunity.org

TDDP provides specialized equipment free of charge to eligible people who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind and speech impaired. Those who meet program requirements may be eligible for free equipment such as:

- TTYs
- · captioned phones
- amplified phones
- hands-free speaker phones
- voice-carryover and hearing-carryover phones
- cordless phones
- talking telephones
- voice-activated dialers
- photo phones
- · big-button phones
- ring-signaler devices

Notes:	 	

Vision Services

American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)

(800) 232-5463 Afb.org

The American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) helps to ensure that individuals who are blind or visually impaired have access to the information, technology, education and legal resources they need to live independent and productive lives. The foundation has amplified the voices of people with vision loss, and has helped to facilitate advancement and opportunity for everyone affected by blindness or vision loss.

Beaver County Association for the Blind (BCAB)

616 Fourth St. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 843-1111 bcblind.org

Beaver County Association for the Blind (BCAB) has been serving persons who are blind or visually impaired and the Beaver County community for over 70 years. Some of our services and programs include transportation/sighted guide, a life skills group, support groups, assistive technology classes, a low vision clinic, children and adult vision screenings, low cost/no cost eyeglass program, eye safety education for the entire community and employment opportunities for those who are blind or disabled.

Beaver County Lighthouse

720 Third Ave. New Brighton, PA 15066 (724) 846-1111

The Lighthouse is a recreational facility for the blind and visually impaired. Every Monday, the Lighthouse hosts a day of breakfasts, craft classes, parties and games, and lunches. The staff can also assist individuals with small tasks.

Blind and Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh

(412) 368-4400 blindvr.org

Services and programs for the blind and visually impaired – including Rehabilitation Center Services, which provides personal adjustment training, low-vision services, Access Technology Center, senior transition program, case management services, community education services, vocational services and employment services.

Carnegie Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

(412) 687-2440 (800) 242-0586 carnegielibrary.org/LBPH

Free library services are available to eligible visually and physically disabled individuals in western Pennsylvania. Recorded books and magazines, equipment to play the recordings, large-print books and described videos are available. Materials are mailed to registered readers and returned postage free.

Choice Magazine Listening (CML)

(888) 724-6423 choicemagazinelistening.org

A free audio anthology for blind, visually impaired or physically handicapped subscribers. It offers contemporary magazine writing to adults unable to read standard print. The required special digital Talking Book player is provided free of charge by the Library of Congress.

Free White Cane Program

National Federation of the Blind

410-659-9314 nfb.org

The long, white cane is a means to independence. It has proved to be a useful tool to millions of blind people in navigating their environments with confidence and safety. Visit their website to download an application. Printed applications should be mailed to Free White Cane Program, National Federation of the Blind, 200 East Wells St., at Jernigan Place, Baltimore, MD 21230.

OneSight

(888) 935-4589 onesight.org

A family of charitable programs that provide free vision care and eye wear to underprivileged individuals. Potential recipients in need of free eye care can inquire at local LensCrafters, Pearle Vision, Sears Optical or Target Optical stores. All patients are pre-selected by local charities based on visual and financial need.

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)

Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services (866) 412-4072 dli.pa.gov

Assists Pennsylvanians who are blind or visually impaired to gain the skills necessary to live and work independently in their communities. Independent Living for the Older Blind (ILOB) is also an OVR program that serves individuals ages 55 and older who are legally blind. It's designed to help individuals achieve or regain maximum independence within their homes and communities. No financial needs test is required but visual eligibility must be documented. Services include advocacy, counseling, information referral, blindness skills training, rehabilitation teaching, orientation and mobility instruction, and low vision services.

Vision USA

American Optometric Association (800) 766-4466 aoa.org/visionusa

Helps low-income, uninsured individuals and their families by providing basic eye health and vision care services free of charge. To qualify for an exam, applicants must meet certain conditions—including not having had an eye exam in the past two years. Eyewear may also be provided at no cost or for a small fee in some states.



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Alzheimer's Support



Alzheimer's Association

Helpline: (412) 261-5040 or (800) 272-3900 alz.org/pa

The Alzheimer's Association provides vital services and support to individuals struggling with the disease, their families and caregivers, including:

Helpline: The telephone Helpline is toll-free, convenient and confidential. It is answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and provides:

- answers to your questions about Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia;
- an outlet for you to express your feelings and concerns to someone who understands your situation and can offer practical tips for coping;
- ongoing, unconditional support during the course of the disease;
- insight into the effects the disease will have on the afflicted person and his or her family; and
- information on assessment centers, legal and financial issues, home care, adult day services, personal care homes, nursing homes and other resources in your community.

Medic Alert Safe Return Program: The Alzheimer's Association has partnered with Medic Alert to offer expanded services for Safe Return. The program is a nationwide identification program that assists in the safe return of individuals who wander and become lost. The Safe Return Program:

- offers assistance 24 hours a day, every day;
- immediately faxes a lost individual's information to local law enforcement;
- provides a toll-free number for citizens or law officials to call if an individual is found; and
- offers registration for a fee, which includes an engraved identification bracelet or other I.D. jewelry. Call for fees.

Care Consultation

This service assists persons with Alzheimer's or related dementias and their families in planning for and dealing with all aspects of the illness.

Components of Care Consultation include:

- assessment of needs;
- assistance with planning and problem solving;
- information and resource lists;
- supportive listening; and
- follow up, as needed.

Care Consultation is not case management, care management, counseling, crisis intervention or case advocacy, but part of it may identify the need for and refer families to appropriate agencies or persons that provide these services. Care coordinators are not trained to provide crisis intervention. Families with ongoing or extremely critical needs will be linked with resources in the community that are best able to support them.

Alzheimer's Support Groups

The Alzheimer's Association sponsors caregiver support groups where individuals can connect with other families and caregivers who are dealing with the disease. Meeting with a group reduces feelings of isolation, provides techniques that can help ease the physical and emotional burden for both the diagnosed person and caregiver, and offers a chance to share practical ideas and feelings in a compassionate setting.

Alzheimer's Support Group in Beaver County.

Charles Fenchel and Associates

2242 Darlington Rd. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 847-4723

St. Barnabas Beaver Meadows

5130 Tuscarawas Rd. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 495-1600

Early stage telephone support groups

Alzheimer's Association telephone support groups provide emotional, educational, and social support for individuals living in the early stages of Alzheimer's or a related dementia and their care partners.

Held via telephone conference call, these groups help participants develop coping methods and encourage ongoing personal, physical and emotional health. Registration is required by calling (412) 261-5040.

Health-Related Associations and Support Groups

When faced with a health crisis, it sure helps to know that you're not alone. With so many support groups in our community, there's no need to be. Below are a number of healthrelated associations and support groups that are at your service, should you need them.



Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's Association (800) 272-3900 alz.org/pa

Alzheimer's Support See page 32

Arthritis

The Arthritis Foundation, Western Pennsylvania Chapter (412) 566-1645 arthritis.org

Bereavement Support

To locate a support group, contact GriefShare (800) 395-5755 griefshare.org

Blind

Beaver County Association for the Blind (724) 843-1111 bcblind.org

Brain

Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania (800) 444-6443 biapa.org

Cancer

American Cancer Society (800) 227-2345 cancer.org

National Cancer Institute (800) 422-6237 cancer.gov

Cerebral Palsy

United Cerebral Palsy (800) 872-5827 ucp.org

Crohn's and Colitis

Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of American (800) 343-3637 ccfa.org

Diabetes

American Diabetes Association (888) 342-2383 diabetes.org

Epilepsy

Epilepsy Foundation of Western/Central PA (800) 361-5885 efwp.org

Heart

American Heart Association (800) 242-8721 americanheart.org

Kidney

American Kidney Fund (800) 638-8299 kidneyfund.org

Leukemia

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (800) 955-4572 leukemia.org

Liver

American Liver Foundation (800) 465-4837 liverfoundation.org

Lung

American Lung Association (800) 586-4872 lungusa.org

Lupus Foundation of PA (800) 800-5776 lupuspa.org

Mental Health

Behavioral Health Beaver County (724) 847-6225 bcbh.org

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) (888) 264-7972 namiswpa.org

Multiple Sclerosis

National Multiple Sclerosis Society (800) 344-4867 nationalmssociety.org

Myasthenia Gravis

The Myasthenia Gravis **Foundation of America** (800) 541-5454 myasthenia.org

Osteoporosis

National Osteoporosis Foundation (800) 231-4222 nof.org

Ostomy

United Ostomy Associations of America (800) 826-0826 ostomy.org

Parkinson's Disease

American Parkinson Disease Association, Inc (800) 223-2732 apdaparkinson.org

Stroke

American Stroke Association (888) 478-7653 strokeassociation.org

Community Support Programs

The following few pages list a wide variety of community support programs that assist older adults in various ways with remaining in their own homes.

Beaver County Cancer and Heart Association

3582 Brodhead Rd., Ste. 201 Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 774-6600 bccha.org

The Beaver County Cancer and Heart Association assists local residents in the prevention of cancer and cardiovascular diseases by offering support services and education programs. Their Pharmaceutical Assistance Program, for example, helps those who are without prescription coverage by providing information on available discount drug programs, and working with pharmaceutical companies that provide discount medication.

BCCHA also provides free wigs to uninsured women in Beaver County who are undergoing chemotherapy, and discounted bra and breast forms to those who have undergone a mastectomy. The association's Angels R' Us Fund is for local families who have a child diagnosed with cancer or life threatening heart condition. The fund helps defray the financial burden related to the child's illness.

Beaver County Collaborative Action Network Foundation (BCCAN)

PO Box 369 Beaver, PA 15009 bccan.org

BCCAN's website is a valuable information and referral source for more than 300 community service agencies in Beaver County and beyond. Search the online library and agency directory, or download a customized resource directory from their current database.

Catholic Charities Diocese of Pittsburgh Basic Needs Assistance for the Elderly

276 East End Ave. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-0758 ccpgh.org

Catholic Charities provides seniors and their families with information about community resources and assist them with emergency basic needs such as counseling, referrals to community services and CAP/Dollar Energy Program.

Salvation Army

PO Box 600, 414 16th St. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 846-2330 salvationarmy-wpa.org

Provides assistance with spiritual and emotional support, emergency assistance or shelter, emergency disaster assistance and foodbank.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

1243 North Franklin St. Pittsburgh, PA 15233 (412) 321-1071 svdppitt.org

Offers many community services for those less fortunate—including food, clothing and furniture, as well as help applying for energy assistance. The society also provides financial resources (based on availability) through its conferences, or groups of volunteers.

Equipment Lending

Community Living and Support Services (CLASS)

Lending Programs

1400 South Braddock Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15218 (412) 683-7100 ext. 2179 classcommunity.org

Reused and Exchanged Equipment Partnership (REEP)

A classified listing of items of assistive technology available for sale or donation. (An assistive technology device is any device used by a person with a disability in order to communicate, work, play, learn, do chores at home or get around in the community.)

CLASS is now also the new location for the PIAT Assistive Technology Demonstration Center where people can come and try out a variety of assistive technology devices (but not Durable Medical Equipment).

Assistive Technology

Augmentative Communication Consultants (ACCI)

(412) 264-6121 (800) 982-2248 acciinc.com

ACCI represents more than a dozen manufacturers of augmentative communication and other assistive technologies, offering demonstrations, products, workshops and consultations.

Guiding Eyes for the Blind

(800) 942-0149 guidingeyes.org

Provides trained guide dogs for the blind or visually impaired throughout the US at no charge. Assistive technology training is offered in conjunction with guide dog training.

Paws With A Cause (PAWS)

(800) 253-7297 pawswithacause.org

PAWS trains assistance dogs nationally for people with disabilities and provides lifetime team support which encourages independence.

Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Lending Library

(412) 683-7100 ext. 2179 TTY: (412) 246-2255 classcommunity.org

This "try before you buy" program offers loaners of assistive technology devices for approximately six weeks to Pennsylvania residents with disabilities.

UPMC Center for Assistive Technology

(412) 647-1310 TDD (412) 647-1325

upmc.com/Services/rehab/rehab-institute/services/cat/Pages/ default.aspx

A joint program of UPMC and University of Pittsburgh, the Center for Assistive Technology assists individuals with disabilities who need assistive devices for mobility, hearing, speech and other essential everyday needs.



Food Assistance



Beaver County Cancer and Heart Association

3582 Brodhead Rd., Ste. 201 Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 774-6600 bccha.org/support.html

Offers Ensure and Ensure Plus nutritional supplement at very affordable prices. Flavors include vanilla, chocolate, strawberry and butter pecan.

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

(412) 460-3663 pittsburghfoodbank.org

A federal program, run by the Pennsylvania Association of Regional Food Banks, that provides USDA commodity foods. Each month participants receive a box containing food. Must meet certain criteria to be eligible.

Senior Center Congregate Meals

Senior centers and their satellite locations throughout Beaver County offer congregate meals every week to older adults. The schedule for these meals is as follows:

Center at the Mall, Beaver Valley Mall:

Monday through Friday

Circle of Friends, Baden:

Monday through Friday

Circle of Friends, New Brighton:

Monday through Friday

Circle of Friends, Aliquippa:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Circle of Friends, Midland:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

See page 74 of this Guide for more information about senior centers in Beaver County.

Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Progam (FMNP)

Beaver County Office on Aging

Farmers Market Hotline (724) 384-5130

By using FMNP checks—administered in Beaver County through Beaver County Office on Aging—older adults can purchase and enjoy the benefits of locally grown produce. One set of four checks worth \$5 each is distributed to eligible seniors each summer at scheduled sites throughout the country. Recipients must be age 60 or older, live in Beaver County, not live in a residential facility, and meet income guidelines. Checks are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Eligible seniors not physically able to get to a site can designate a proxy to pick up and redeem the checks. Forms are available at the Beaver County Office on Aging and on the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture website: agriculture.pa.gov.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP is the federal Food Stamp Program. The program is accessible to low-income individuals and families to buy the food they need for good health. Benefits are provided on an electronic card that is used like an ATM card and accepted at most grocery stores.

SNAP Program Income Guidelines

Income Limits (before any deductions): 160% of poverty level and 200% if age 60 and older or disabled

Household Size	Gross Maximum Monthly Income	Elderly or Disabled Individual in the Household
1	\$1,608	\$2,010
2	\$2,166	\$2,708
Each Additional Member	+ \$558	+ \$698

^{*} Income limits may change in 2018.

The following persons may apply:

- The head of the household
- The spouse of the head of the household
- Any other responsible household member
- A designated authorized representative, who can be a friend, relative, neighbor, or anyone else the applicant trusts to go food shopping and use his/her food stamp benefits

How to apply

Fill out an application at your local County Assistance Office at (724) 773-7300 or (800) 653-3129, Department of Human Services (800) 692-7462/TDD: (800) 451-5886 or fill out an online form at COMPASS, compass.state.pa.us.

Food Assistance

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels is an ideal program for older adults who are homebound and unable to shop for food or physically prepare their own meals.

Each meal is nutritionally sound and meets two-thirds of seniors' Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA). Hours and days of operation vary by location (see list below) but meals are generally served Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and noon. Consumers are asked to donate an average of \$20 to \$25 per week for meals.

Beaver Falls Meals On Wheels

College Hill Reformed Presbyterian Church 34th and Fifth Avenues, Beaver Falls (724) 843-5450

Serves Beaver Falls area, Eastvale, North Sewickley, part of Patterson Township, Koppel and Homewood

Blackhawk Area Meals On Wheels

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church 2679 Darlington Rd., Chippewa (724) 843-6646

Serving South Beaver Township, Big Beaver, Chippewa Township, Darlington, New Galilee, Patterson Twp., Patterson Heights and Enon Valley

Beaver County Meals On Wheels

Grace Lutheran Church 393 Adams St., Rochester (724) 774-0292

Serving Aliquippa, Ambridge, Baden, Beaver, Bridgewater, Brighton Township, Center Township, Conway, East Rochester Boro, Economy Boro, Fair Oaks, Five Points, Freedom, Harmony, Hookstown, Hopewell Township, Independence, Industry, Midland, Monaca, New Brighton, New Sewickley, Pulaski Township, Rochester Boro, Rochester Township and Vanport.

Food Pantries

If you are in need of food assistance or are having difficulty making ends meet and simply need a nutritious, meal, check out this page for resources in your Beaver County community.

Baden United Methodist Church/ **We Care Food Pantry**

(Baden and Conway) (724) 869-2720

Christian House Baptist Chapel

(Raccoon Township) (724) 495-3330

Hanover Presbyterian Church

(Hanover Township) (724) 899-2911

House of Prayer Lutheran Church

Aliquippa, Center, and Hopewell Townships, Logstown, West Aliquippa (724) 378-8050

Lillyville Church of God

Franklin Township (724) 758-8258

St. Frances Cabrini

(Center Township) (724) 775-6363

Salvation Army Aliquippa

(Lower Beaver Valley, zip code 15001, 15061 and 15081) (724) 378-0875

Salvation Army Beaver Falls

(Upper Beaver Valley, including zip codes 15010, 15066, 16136, 16141 and 16157) (724) 891-3605

Salvation Army Service Unit Midland, Reagan Hall

(zip codes 15052 and 15059 (724) 777-0011

Salvation Army Rochester

(Central Beaver Valley including zip codes 15009, 15027, 15042, and 15074) (724) 774-8335

Zelienople Church of the Nazarine

(724) 452-9190

Soup Kitchens

Christ Episcopal Church

1217 Third Ave. (Rear), New Brighton (724) 561-6491

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

409 11th St., Beaver Falls (Use Fourth Avenue door.) (724) 846-2899

Church in the Round

Griffith and Woodrow, Aliquippa (724) 375-5528

First Presbyterian Church

1103 Eighth Ave., Beaver Falls (724) 846-7818

First United Presbyterian Church of Ambridge

The Ladle Ninth and Maplewood, Ambridge (412) 908-0323

Salvation Army Beaver Falls

414 16th St., Beaver Falls (724) 846-2330

Beaver Falls Breakfast Ministry (breakfast every Saturday)

Central United Methodist Church

(1st and 2nd Saturday of each month) Sixth Ave. and 13th St., Beaver Falls (724) 846-3474

First Baptist Church

(4th Saturday) Sixth Ave. and 17th St., Beaver Falls (724) 843-8930

St. John The Evangelist Orthodox **Christian Church**

(3rd Saturday) 1501 8th Ave., Beaver Falls (724) 847-1111

Notes:			 _
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Financial Assistance

Alliance for Consumer Protection (ACP)

469 Constitution Blvd., Route 51 New Brighton, PA 15066 (724) 770-2078 acp-beaver.org

ACP provides consumer information and education, mediates and negotiates complaints, helps resolve credit report problems, does consumer credit counseling and establishes family budgets for consumers in the Beaver County region. All services are free.

Beaver County Assistance Office

171 Virginia Ave. PO Box 349 Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 773-7300 or (800) 653-3129 LIHEAP (724) 773-7495 dhs.pa.gov

The Beaver County Assistance Office provides help and services to residents of Beaver County regarding matters such as cash assistance, Food Stamps, medical coverage, home heating assistance (LIHEAP), emergency housing and possible help with paying for Medicare premiums. To learn more, call the above phone numbers or visit the state website.

Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation (PATF)

(888) 744-1938 patf.us

This statewide nonprofit organization provides education and financing opportunities for people with disabilities and older Pennsylvanians, helping them to acquire the assistive technology devices and services that improve the quality of their lives.

PATF offers:

- Information and assistance about assistive technology, funding resources, and vendors
- 0% and low-interest loans
- Financial education

PATF programs are available to Pennsylvanians of:

- All ages
- All income levels
- All disabilities and health conditions

We make every effort to make all of our materials accessible, including to non-English speakers.

Pennsylvania Health Law Project

(800) 274-3258 phlp.org

Pennsylvania hospitals are required by law to provide care for people who can't fully pay their medical bills. They are required because most hospitals receive funds--called "charity care" funds-that are to be used to help such patients. Call if you have trouble qualifying for health insuance or free or low-cost care from your hospital.

Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency

Access Home Modification Program (800) 822-1174 phfa.org

Provides mortgage loans to assist persons with disabilities or who have a family member(s) living in the household with disabilities and who are purchasing a home that needs accessibility modifications. This program provides a deferred payment loan, with no interest and no monthly payment. The loan becomes due and payable upon payoff of the first mortgage, sale, transfer, refinance or non-owner occupancy of the property.

Reverse Mortgage

A reverse mortgage enables older homeowners to convert part of the equity in their homes into tax-free income without having to sell the home, give up their title or take on a new monthly mortgage payment. The reverse mortgage is aptly named because the payment stream is "reversed." Instead of making monthly payments to a lender, a lender makes payments for you.

A reverse mortgage can be paid to you all at once in a single lump sum of cash, as a regular monthly loan advance, or at times and in amounts that you choose. The amount of cash you can get depends in part on the specific reverse mortgage plan you select. You pay the money back plus interest when you sell your home, permanently move from your home or are deceased.

Who's Eligible

Borrowers must be age 62 or older and must occupy the home as a principal residence.

How They Work

Because you make no monthly payments, the amount you owe grows larger over time. As your debt grows larger, the amount of cash (or equity) remaining after selling and paying off the loan generally grows smaller. You are still responsible for property taxes, insurance and repairs.

What You Pay

The lowest cost reverse mortgages are offered by state and local governments; they generally have low or no loan fees, and the interest rates are typically moderate. Private sector reverse mortgages are very expensive and include a variety of costs. Reverse mortgages are most expensive in the early years of the loan and become less costly over time.

Tax and Estate Considerations

It's important to be aware that reverse mortgages may have tax consequences, affect eligibility for assistance under federal and state programs, and have an impact on the estate and heirs of the homeowner.

Source: aarp.org.

Financial Assistance

Social Security Administration

Office of Public Inquiries

Windsor Park Building 1100 West High Rise 6401 Security Blvd. Baltimore, MD 21235 (800) 772-1213 TTY (800) 325-0778 ssa.gov

On the Social Security Administration's website, you can determine if you qualify for benefits, apply for benefits (retirement and disability) and estimate your future benefits. You can also get help with a particular situation such as a death in the family, and receive information for widows, widowers and other survivors on how to report a death.

Social Security's toll-free number operates from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you have a touch-tone phone, recorded information and services are available 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays, seven days a week. For those who are deaf or hard of hearing, call the TTY number above between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Have your Social Security number handy when calling.

Beaver County SSA local offices:

All Beaver County residents with a zip code that starts "15" should contact the Ambridge office at:

120 Merchant St. Ambridge, PA 15003 (866) 331-6401

All Beaver County residents with a zip code that starts "16" should contact the New Castle office at:

1708 Wilmington Rd. New Castle, PA 16105 (866) 331-5286

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

(800) 772-1213 TTY: (800) 325-0778 ssa.gov

SSI is a federal program that provides monthly cash payments to people who have a limited income and resources if they are age 65 or older or if they are blind or have another disability.

Being eligible for SSI means:

- you receive a monthly benefit.
- Medicare premiums are paid in full.
- Medicaid and Food Stamp benefits may be available.

TCBC the cornerstone of beaver county

1217 7th Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 846-6400 cornerstonebeaver.org

The Cornerstone is a reliable central access to Beaver County resources that help community residents improve their lives. It's resources include:

- The Franklin Center: Helps eligible applicants who are facing imminent homelessness with rental and utility assistance and more.
- Beaver County Fair Housing Office: Creates equal housing opportunities by educating and enforcing Fair Housing Laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or family status.
- SNAP: Through the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, this helps individuals to afford food, health insurance and home heating through programs like SNAP, Medical Assistance and LIHEAP.
- Emergency Solutions Grant: Provides help to those at risk of homelessness through case management, financial assistance, credit counseling and more.
- Community Assisted Residential Living: Provides housing and resources for disabled individuals and households who are homeless or residing in an emergency shelter.
- Supportive Services or Veteran Families: Provides temporary assistance for veterans who are experiencing a housing crisis.

Safety for Seniors

Preventing Crime at Home

Most of us want to believe that crime is something that only happens "out there"—beyond our neighborhood or on the evening news. While older adults are less likely to be victims of crime than young adults, we can't ignore that seniors are often targets for robbery, purse snatching, car theft, and home repair and Internet scams. Don't let the fear of crime stop you from enjoying life but do be aware of your surroundings, even in your own home. These tips can help you fight crime and stay safe.

In Your Home:

- Make sure your locks, doors and windows are strong and secure. Keep them locked when you are at home and away.
- Don't open your door before you know who's there. Look through a peephole or safe window first.
- Don't be afraid to hang up on telephone salespeople. Don't give personal information over the phone.
- Be on guard about hiring people who come door-to-door looking for home repair work.
- Be careful when buying things online. Make sure that any website you are ordering items from has a secure server.
- Make a list of your expensive belongings and take pictures of the most valuable items. Store these papers in a safe place.
- Don't keep large amounts of money at home.
- Consider using a home alarm system.

In Your Neighborhood:

- Get to know your neighbors and join a neighborhood watch program if your community has one.
- Walk with a friend. Stay away from unsafe places like dark parking lots or alleys.
- Keep your car doors locked at all times. Don't open your car door or window for strangers.
- Carry your purse close to your body with the strap over your shoulder and across your chest.

Medic Alert + Alzheimer's Association Safe Return Program

(888) 572-8566 medicalert.org/safereturn

The Alzheimer's Association Safe Return program is a nation-wide identification program that assists in the safe return of individuals who wander and become lost. Assistance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. If an enrollee is missing, one call immediately activates a community support network to help reunite the lost person with his or her caregiver.

Personal Response Systems (PERS)

Personal response systems allow a person — with the touch of a button — to reach someone at a response center 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For seniors and people with disabilities, these systems can give you or a loved one peace of mind.

The senior or disabled individual can often continue with daily activities and remain independent as a result of having a PERS.

Personal response systems:

Lutheran SeniorLife VNA (877) 862-6659

Vector Security

(800) 756-9161

Local telephone service providers may also be of assistance in arranging personal response systems. Contact your local telephone provider.



Live Independently...Not Alone

Medical help at the push of a button.

Get medical help in an emergency at the push of a button with the Personal Emergency Response System (PERS) from Vector Security[®].

Simply wear the system on your wrist or neck and press the "help" button to be connected to a trained operator 24 hours a day.

Call now for more information and a free consultation...because living alone doesn't mean being alone.

1-800-756-9161 www.vectorsecurity.com

Home Repair, Maintenance and Safety

etting older can bring with it various lifestyle changes and ■ minor health concerns, some of which require us to make modifications to our homes in order to remain safe there. The following organizations in and around Beaver County can help you remain independent by providing home safety and modification services on an as-needed basis.



Beaver County Home Improvement Program (HIP)

The Housing Authority of the County of Beaver 300 State Ave. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-1220 beavercountyhousing.org

Due to the age of the housing stock in Beaver County and recognizing the importance it has on the economic climate of the county—as well as the effect that an aging, deteriorating housing supply may have on the community—the Beaver County Board of Commissioners has made a substantial commitment to maintaining and preserving the existing housing stock in Beaver County through its Community Development Block Grant funds for the Home Improvement Program (HIP). The objectives of HIP are to stabilize the housing stock by providing rehabilitation assistance to eligible county residents.

The Beaver County Home Improvement Program was created to provide financial assistance to eligible home owner/occupants. This financial assistance is offered in the form of a zero percent interest loan/deferred payment grant. The amount of assistance varies based upon household income and is to be used to return the housing unit to a code compliant condition with a secondary emphasis on energy conservation.

Home Safe Home Program Lutheran SeniorLife

(724) 496-1558 lutheranseniorlife.org

Home Safe Home is a program of Lutheran SeniorLife (click the Valley Care link on the above website) that serves all of Beaver and Butler counties, as well as the western portion of Allegheny County (but not the City of Pittsburgh). This program helps people with mobility issues, like getting in and out of the house, up and down stairs and using the bathroom. Home Safe Home provides and installs home modifications such as grab bars, interior and exterior stair railings, ramps and stair lifts. It does not do general home repairs. Subsidized service may be available for those who qualify.

Hosanna Industries

109 Rinard Ln. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 770-0262 hosannaindustries.org

This nonprofit organization uplifts communities by providing home construction and general repair services as a means to alleviate poverty among very low-income households and keep their homes habitable and handicapped assessable. (HUD income guidelines vary by county). Hosanna constructs new homes in one week's time (called "blitz builds") for qualifying families. Financial verification and a photocopy of one's deed must accompany the application. Personal donations and volunteers are welcome.

ReStore

Habitat for Humanity 47 Bridge St. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 846-1630 beavercountyhabitat.org

ReStore sells good quality used and surplus building materials at a fraction of normal prices. Proceeds from ReStore helps to fund the construction of Habitat for Humanity houses in Beaver County. Materials are usually donated from building supply stores, contractors, demolition crews or from individuals who wish to show their support for Habitat. In addition to raising funds, they help the environment by rechanneling good, usable materials into use. Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry. It seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action.

Weatherization Program

The Housing Authority of the County of Beaver 300 State St. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-1220 beavercountyhousing.org

The purpose of this program is to help lower fuel bills. Services may include: weather stripping around doors, caulking around windows, insulation around hot water tank/ exposed water pipes, sealing of air ducts, insulation in attic area, safety inspection of furnace. Applicants are ranked on a Waiting List based on need of the household.

Weatherization Program Income Guidelines

Income Limits (before any deductions):

<u>People in household</u>	200% of Poverty
1	\$22,980
2	\$31,020
3	\$39,060

Each additional member (after family of 8) add \$4,020. Income guidelines may change end of January 2019.

Emergency Preparedness

Are you ready for an emergency? (and why you should be!)

Editor's note: Please be sure to save the information in this article. It's designed to help you take the first steps in readying for an emergency. By developing a personal emergency plan and storing supplies in your home, you will be better prepared to withstand an emergency if and when it occurs.

Emergencies and disasters come in many types and sizes: heat waves and snow storms, fires and floods, power outages and hazardous material spills. You can often get through an emergency just by staying inside and being careful. At other times, emergencies can be such a serious threat to your health and safety that you may have to leave your home for a time. Most of us can get through a thunderstorm without incident but what if it causes a power outage that lasts for a few days? We are used to snowfalls but not like the one that happened last February.

Because emergencies often happen with little or no warning, you may have little or no time to prepare. For this reason, the trick is to take some simple steps to prepare ahead of time so that you will be ready when one happens. Moreover, your local police and other emergency personnel may not be able to respond to you right away if you need help when a general or widespread emergency—such as a flood or snowstorm—happens in your community. In these cases, being prepared can help you get through an emergency on your own until help arrives.

Remember to be a good neighbor and friend in an emergency. If you know others who may need help, especially those who live alone, they may really appreciate hearing from you and knowing that someone is thinking about them.

Individual Emergency Plans

Your individual emergency plan should be designed to meet your personal situation and needs in an emergency. The following information should help you create an effective emergency plan.

Who you will call. Begin your plan by thinking about which family members, friends, neighbors or other people you would call for help in a serious emergency. Ask if you would be able to call



on them in an emergency. Once you have identified your emergency contacts, do this:

- Make a list of their names, addresses and phone numbers on small index cards that you can keep in your home and purse/wallet.
- Give copies to the people on your list so that they can communicate with each other.
- Make sure to add your name, address and phone number to the list so that the other people on it can call you.

Your list of people should include:

- the family member or other person who you feel you can most depend on in an emergency. This person should be someone with whom you stay in touch regularly, will always know where you are and will know how to contact you. This should be the first person you call in an emergency. If you must leave your home, this should be the first person that you call to say where you will be and how you can be reached.
- emergency services in your community, such as the police, fire and ambulance or emergency medical staff.
- your personal physician. (Make sure that your physician knows about all of the medications that you take.)
- your Office on Aging care manager or senior center.

- nearby family members, friends and others who may be able to help you, especially those who have a car and could come to your home or take you somewhere.
- someone you know well who lives outside the Beaver County area and may be easier to contact if local phone lines are jammed.

How you will get out. In some emergencies such as a fire, you may not be able to leave your home through a main entrance or get to the street. Your plan should list all the other ways that you can safely get out of and away from your home.

Where you will go. Your plan should list the place or places you will go if an emergency requires that you leave your home. For instance, if you must leave your home for a short time (an hour or so), pick a place close by, maybe with a family member or friend, where you will be safe and it will be easy to return home. If you must leave your home for a longer time, even a few days, indicate the name, address and phone number of a family member or friend where you will be able to stay until it is safe to return to your home.

What you need to take with you. If you have to leave your home, your plan should list the things that you will need to take with you so that you can find and pack them quickly, especially your medications.

Emergency Preparedness

It also helps to keep some basic clothing items packed in a bag and ready to go. See "Emergency Home Supplies," to the right.

How to secure your home. Since you may be away for a while, your plan should list the things you need to do to safeguard your home, such as the following.

- · Lock doors and windows
- Unplug all major appliances
- Turn off utilities
- Have a house key with you and give another one to a nearby family member or friend

Special help you may need. If you have special medical or physical conditions or needs, list them so that they are known and can be met in an emergency. Tell the people on your contact list about your needs so that they will know what to do for you in an emergency. It is important to note anything that will affect your ability to leave or live away from your home for a few days, such as:

- you use a walker or wheelchair, or are unsteady on your feet.
- you have special medical needs such as oxygen or insulin.
- you need special medical services such as dialysis or heart monitoring.
- you have no automobile and will need transportation.
- you have to take medications regularly.
- you have other medical conditions or disabilities that affect your ability to move around such as arthritis or poor eyesight.
- you have pets that will need to be cared for.

Learn more about emergency preparedness

Two of the best places to get information about being prepared for emergencies are online at the American Red Cross (redcross.org) and the Federal Emergency Management Administration (fema.gov).

Now that you have your personal emergency plan, begin to gather emergency supplies to keep in your home or take with you if you have to leave. Here are some items that you should always have ready at home:

- ✓ Non-perishable food items (threeday supply, manual can opener and, if it's hard for you to use a can opener, food in easy-to-open containers)
- ✓ Water (three-day supply, one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation)
- ✓ Lighting and clock (battery operated)
- ✓ Flashlight (without batteries loaded), supply of batteries and matches in a waterproof container
- ✓ Large umbrella and raincoat
- ✓ Communication devices (cell phone with charger, battery powered radio, NOAA weather radio, television, personal computer with email and Internet, paper and pens)
- ✓ First-aid kit and manual, medications, medical supplies, personal hygiene and daily living items
- ✓ Personal identification and important documents (birth certificate, Social Security and Medicare/Medicaid cards, driver's license, home deed, insurance and bank records, list of major household goods) in a waterproof container and secure place

- ✓ Cash, checks and credit cards
- ✓ Re-sealable plastic bags
- ✓ Dust masks, plastic sheeting and duct tape for protection from contaminated air
- ✓ Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ✓ Noise-making devices to signal for help (whistle, pot and pan, air horn)
- ✓ Tools (wrench to turn off water, snow shovel, ice breaker)
- ✓ A copy of your personal emergency plan, including the list of emergency contact numbers
- ✓ Buckets or other containers for water storage
- ✓ House and car keys, and extra sets kept by someone outside the home
- ✓ Local street map and phone directory
- ✓ Warming and cooling items (blankets, fans, air conditioner, sleeping
- ✓ Fire extinguisher and instructions on how to use it
- ✓ Two or three complete changes of clothing
- ✓ Children's supplies, if needed
- ✓ Pet supplies, if needed

Special Needs Response Card

Beaver County Emergency Services 351 14th St.

Ambridge, PA 15003

(724) 775-1700

beavercountypa.gov/emergency-services

If you or other members of your family would require special assistance in the event of an emergency evacuation, the Beaver County Emergency Management Agency has a Special Needs Response Card that you can complete and send in to notify the agency of your needs. (Some special needs would include if you are hearing, visually or mobility impaired, or would require special transportation for a medical condition.) The Special Needs Response Card is automatically sent out to all county residents each year; if you didn't receive one or need a replacement, call the number above or visit the Beaver County emergency Services at the above address Monday through Friday. By completing and signing this card, your signature authorizes emergency management officials to use the information provided to assist you if an evacuation is ever required. All information provided is kept confidential.

Health Insurance

Health insurance is a serious matter, especially with today's rising healthcare costs. This section of the *Guide* offers an array of options for health and long-term insurance coverage, counseling and advocacy.

Federal/State Insurance Medicaid

(800) 692-7462 or

Beaver County Assistance Office at (724) 773-7300 cms.gov

A joint federal and state program that helps pay medical costs for some people with limited incomes and resources. Most of your healthcare costs are covered if you have Medicare and Medicaid. Medicaid programs vary from state to state. People with Medicaid may get coverage for services such as nursing home and home healthcare that are not fully covered by Medicare through Community Health Choices.

AmeriHealth Caritas

(TTY (855) 235-5112)

UPMC Community HealthChoices

(855) 235-5115

(844) 833-0523 (TTY (866) 407-8762)

pa health & wellness

CHC website:

(844) 626-6813

HEALTHCHOICES.PA.GOV

(TTY (844) 349-8916) (833) 735-4416

Medicare (Original Medicare Plan)

(800) 633-4227; (800-MEDICARE) TTY: (877) 377-4950 medicare.gov

Medicare is a health insurance program for:

- people ages 65 and older;
- people under age 65 with certain disabilities; and
- people of all ages with end-stage renal disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant.)

Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) helps to pay for inpatient hospital care, psychiatric hospital care, medically necessary skilled nursing facility care following a hospital stay, home health care, hospice care and blood received in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. Most people do not pay a premium for Part A because they or a spouse already paid for it through their payroll taxes while working.

Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance) helps to pay for doctor's services, outpatient hospital services and various medical services and supplies. This is a voluntary program and a monthly premium must be paid.

Assistance to pay for this premium may be available for individuals with low income. (Refer to Healthy Horizons below.)

Visit the Medicare website listed above or contact your nearest Social Security Administration office for specific information about benefits.

Healthy Horizons in Pennsylvania

(800) 842-2020 or (800) 692-7462 dhs.pa.gov

This medical assistance program developed by the state serves to ensure adequate health care for older adults and disabled persons with low incomes by helping to pay their Medicare premiums.

• The Healthy Horizons Categorically Needy Program pays medical benefits such as prescriptions, doctor or clinic visits, dental and eye care, Medicare premiums, and Part A and B deductibles and coinsurance.

- Healthy Horizons Medicare Cost-Sharing Program pays only Medicare premiums and Part A and B deductibles and coinsurance (QMB).
- Healthy Horizons Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary Program (SLMB) pays only the Medicare Part B monthly premium.
- The Qualified Individual Program (Q-I) also pays the Medicare Part B premium.

For more information, contact the Beaver County Assistance Office at (724) 773-7300 or APPRISE at (724) 847-2262.

Income guidelines listed below may change in 2018-2019.

Program	Monthly Income: 1	Monthly Income: 2	Asset Limits: 1	Asset Limits: 2	Benefits
(QMB) Qualified Medicare Beneficiary "B"	\$1,012 or less*	\$1,372 or less	\$7,390	\$11,090	Deductibles Coinsurance
(SLMB) Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary	\$1,214 or less*	\$1,646 or less	\$7,390	\$11,090	Return of Part "B" Premium
(Q-I) Qualified Individual 1	\$1,366 or less*	\$1,852 or less	\$7,390	\$11,090	Return of Part "B" Premium

^{*}Includes \$20 disregard amount

^{*}Information from Pa.Gov Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.

Health Insurance

Medigap Insurance

APPRISE Program (724) 847-2262 Local

(888) 548-2262 Long Distance

The Pennsylvania Insurance **Department Consumer Line**

(877) 881-6388

insurance.pa.gov

This is a Medicare supplement insurance policy sold by private insurance companies to fill "gaps" in Original Medicare Plan coverage. Medigap policies only work with the Original Medicare Plan. The best time to buy a Medigap plan is during open enrollment, which lasts for six months. It starts on the first day of the month in which you are age 65 or older, and enrolled in Medicare Part B. In some situations, you may be able to buy a Medigap policy outside your open enrollment period. These rights are called "Medigap Protections."

Private Medicare Advantage Plans

A Medicare Advantage Plan is offered by a private insurance company that manages the health care of the plan's members. The government pays these companies money each month for each member. The company then helps to pay for medical care by doctors and hospitals that the member needs. These plans are required to provide all services covered under Medicare Parts A and B, and many plans offer additional benefits. In addition to a monthly premium, you may be responsible for out-of-pocket costs such as a co-payment or co-insurance for doctor and hospital visits. To see a specialist or doctor out of the plan, or get lab work, you need a referral from your primary care physician (PCP).

NOTE: Medicare Advantage Plans differ from a Medigap policy. Medigap is a policy sold by the private insurer to fill in the "gaps" with Original Medicare. You should not buy a Medigap plan if you are in a Medicare Advantage Plan. Medicare Advantage Plans are available in many areas. If you have one of these plans you do not need a Medigap policy. Medicare Advantage Plans include:

- Health Maintenance Organization (HMO)
- Preferred Provider Organization Plans (PPO)
- Private Fee-for-Service Plans (PFFS)
- Medicare Medical Savings Account Plans (MSA)
- Medicare Specialty Plans

Following are Medicare Advantage Plans within Beaver County.

Gateway HealthPlan

(877) 741-7756

HealthAmerica Advantra

(800) 470-4272

Highmark Keystone Health Plan West

(800) 576-6343

Humana Insurance Company

(800) 833-2312

United HealthCare

(800) 281-7522

UPMC for Life

(877) 381-3765

The Affordable Care Act

Health Insurance Marketplace

(800) 318-2596 Healthcare.gov

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) helps Americans get access to the healthcare coverage they need. Whether you don't have coverage now or have it but want to look at other options, you can find health coverage at the Health Insurance Marketplace (Healthcare.gov). You'll see all the health plans available in our area so you can compare them side-byside and pick the plan that's right for you. The Marketplace will also tell you if you qualify for free or low-cost coverage available through Medicaid.

Medicare isn't part of the ACA Marketplace, so you don't have to replace your Medicare coverage with Marketplace coverage.

Most Americans are eligible to use the Marketplace. Apply online at the above website, with a paper application, or by phone (call number, above). Telephone help is available 24/7. In-person help in your community can be found by entering your zip code at localhelp. healthcare.gov.

Military Coverage

TRICARE

(877) 874-2273 tricare.mil

TRICARE is a healthcare program for active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, retirees with 20 years of service, and their families. Medicare-eligible uniformed services retirees ages 65 and older and certain family members have access to expanded medical coverage known as TRICARE for Life (TFL). You must have Medicare Part A and Part B to receive TFL benefits.

United States Department of Veterans' Affairs Health Care Benefits

(800) 827-1000 va.gov

The Veterans Administration offers a medical benefits package to all enrolled veterans. This plan emphasizes preventive and primary care, and offers a full range of outpatient and inpatient services within the VA healthcare system.

Other Health Insurance Options

A variety of other options are available to help pay for medical expenses, services and supplies that Medicare covers only partly or not at all.

- Group Health Insurance Continuation: conversion or continuation of an employer provided policy.
- Long-Term Care Insurance: pays cash amounts for care received in a nursing facility or in your home.
- Hospital Indemnity Policies: pays cash amounts for each day of inpatient hospital services.
- Specified Disease Insurance: provides benefits for the treatment of a specific disease such as cancer.
- Federal Employee Health Benefits **Program (FEHB):** offers health coverage for current and retired federal employees and covered family members.

For additional information, call the Pennsylvania Insurance Department Consumer Line at (877) 881-6388 or the APPRISE Program at (724) 847-2262.

Health Insurance Advocacy/Counseling

Livanta

(866) 815-5440 Livanta.com

Livanta protects the rights of Medicare beneficiaries receiving care in Pennsylvania. Call Livanta if you are:

- Denied admission to a hospital
- Asked to leave a hospital before you feel well enough
- Are dissatisfied with the quality of medical care you received from a medical provider

Livanta performs these services free of charge to Medicare beneficiaries, including those enrolled in HMOs. All Medicare beneficiaries who receive medical care in Pennsylvania are eligible.

Medicare Rights Center

(800) 333-4114 medicarerights.org

The Medicare Rights Center is an independent, nonprofit consumer service organization that works to ensure access to affordable health-care for older adults and people with disabilities through counseling and advocacy, educational programs and public policy initiatives. They help individuals with Medicare understand their rights and benefits, navigate the Medicare system and secure the quality care they deserve.

Their education programs offer information and resources on benefits, and their public policy team alerts Congress and the administration about problems facing Medicare consumers and recommends systemic improvements. The center's website (above) includes a comprehensive list of answers to Medicare questions on topics such as coverage basics, eligibility and enrollment, plan options and costs, private health and drug plan costs, filling gaps in Medicare, your rights, help paying for Medicare costs and advice for caregivers.



National Council on Aging (NCOA)

benefitscheckup.org ncoa.org

NCOA's "Benefits Checkup" website helps people ages 55 and older connect to government programs that can help them pay for prescription drugs, health care, utilities, meals and other needs.

Pennsylvania Health Law Project

(800) 274-3258 phlp.org

Provides free legal advice to low income consumers, seniors and persons with disabilities who are having trouble accessing publicly funded healthcare coverage or services. If you are denied or terminated from enrollment in a publicly funded healthcare program or have a service denied, reduced or terminated, PHLP may provide you free direct representation on your appeal.

Pennsylvania Insurance Department Bureau of Consumer Services

(877) 881-6388 insurance.pa.gov

The Pennsylvania Insurance Department offers information on various types of insurance and data on insurers. Consumers can file a complaint, read consumer publications, compare premiums and more.

Health Insurance Counseling

APPRISE State Health Insurance Counseling Program

Beaver County Office on Aging Human Services Building 1020 Eighth Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010

(724) 847-2262 (local) or (888) 548-2262 (long distance) TDD (724) 728-5700 beavercountypa.gov/Depts/OOA

APPRISE counselors are trained to answer your questions and provide you with objective, easy-to-understand information about Medicare, Medicare Supplemental Insurance, Medicaid, Long-Term Care Insurance and the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit.

APPRISE counselors are available to assist an individual in the following ways:

- Understand Medicare Part D Drug Prescription benefit program.
- Determine if a Medicare Advantage Plan is right for the individual by explaining the way Medicare Advantage Plans work.
- Understand Medicare benefits by explaining what services are covered under Medicare Parts A and B and explaining the Medicare Summary Notice.
- Select a Medigap insurance policy by explaining the benefits offered under each plan and by providing a list of companies that sell Medigap plans.
- Obtain assistance to pay for prescription drugs through government and private programs that offer this service, the eligibility requirements and how to apply.
- Find government programs that will pay Medicare deductibles, co-payments and Part B premiums and assist in filling out the paperwork.
- Understand long-term care by explaining eligibility requirements for government long-term care programs, and explaining private long-term care insurance and how to select the best policy.
- Be your advocate if you have difficulty resolving a dispute between you and Medicare or your other insurance provider.

Long-Term Care Insurance

Long-Term Care Insurance

Pennsylvania Insurance Department

Long-Term Living Helpline: (800) 932-0939 insurance.pa.gov

The US Department of Health and Human Services says that 70 percent of people over the age of 65 will require some type of long-term care, and more than 40 percent will need care in a long-term care facility. Long-term care services are typically not covered by health insurance, disability insurance or Medicare, so paying for these services out-of-pocket can quickly become unaffordable.

Long-Term Care (LTC) insurance is one option that many people choose to provide financial protection when they can no longer perform the most basic functions of daily living, such as bathing, dressing, toileting and feeding oneself. Coverage includes a variety of services and supports over an extended period of time that can be provided in many settings, including in the community where you live, in your home, in a medical facility or nursing home, or a combination of these, depending on your needs. Receiving these services and supports in your home or community can make it possible for you to continue to live at home rather than moving to an assisted living or nursing facility. Sometimes Long-Term Care insurance will also cover additional services to help with household tasks such as housework, meal preparation and grocery shopping.

It's Good to Plan Ahead

Planning ahead for the possibility that you will at some point in your life need long-term living services can greatly increase your options in the way you will receive support, services and care when the time arrives. It will allow your family and friends to know your preferences and ensure that your preferences are carried out. Planning ahead also provides you the opportunity to financially prepare for the cost of services, plan your housing options, and preserve your financial standard of living for yourself and your family. Everyone's situation is different, and there are plenty of options available based on your own unique circumstances and priorities.

Who Pays for Long-Term Care

Long-term living services can be very expensive. The cost of services varies significantly based on the types and amount of service that you need. While many believe that Medicare covers all or most of the cost, that is not the case. In Pennsylvania, the annual cost of a nursing facility can exceed \$70,000. Home and community based services that can help you remain in your home cost less yet few can afford to pay for them out of pocket.

Programs are available that can help to pay for long-term living services and supports. It's important to learn about all the available funding sources, the services they cover and eligibility requirements. In addition to private insurance coverage, research these possible options:



Medicare: Medicare was never intended to cover the costs of long-term living; it is health insurance that covers services intended to treat short-term illnesses and injuries. Medicare coverage for long-term care is very limited. It does not pay for custodial care or non-skilled, personal care services, the level of care most commonly needed for chronic illness, cognitive impairment or fragility.

Medical Assistance: In Pennsylvania, Medical Assistance (a joint federal and state government program) is the largest payer of Long-Term Care services. Eligibility for services is often based on your income, personal resources and on functional ability. To qualify, an individual must spend down or exhaust their resources.

Department of Military and Veteran Affairs: If you are a military veteran, visit www.dmva.pa.gov to learn more about whether or not payment of long-term care is available to you.

Other options: You can also work with a licensed insurance company and/or agent to research and purchase coverage. A list of all companies selling Long-Term Care insurance can be found at PAHealthOptions.com or by calling (877) 881-6388. Some employers also offer Long-Term Care insurance as a benefit option, so check with your employer.

To learn more, visit insurance.pa.gov or:

Office of Long-Term Living

Pennsylvania Department of Human Services dhs.pa.gov

US Department of Health and Human Services

longtermcare.gov

Notes:	 	 	

Pharmaceutical Assistance

Medicines: Use Them Safely

Modern medicine makes our lives better and healthier but older adults should be careful when taking them, especially when using several drugs at the same time.

Generic or brand name? When getting a prescription filled, you may have a choice between a generic or brand-name drug. They contain the same active ingredients; the only difference is that generic drugs cost less. Ask the pharmacist if a generic drug is a choice.

Talk with your doctor and pharmacist. Once your doctor prescribes a medicine, tell him about all the over-the-counter and other meds you are taking. Remind him about any allergies or problems you've had. And find out the right way to take the medicine.

When taking your meds:

- Take it in the exact amount and time prescribed.
- Don't skip doses or take half doses.
- Avoid mixing alcohol and medicine.
- Take the medicine until it's finished.
- Don't take meds prescribed for another person or give yours to someone else.
- Don't take medicine in the dark.
- Don't leave your pills where a young child may get into them.

Source: National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, nia. nih.gov. Visit nihseniorhealth.gov for more information.

\$4/\$10 Generic Drug Program

Certain grocery and retail stores like Giant Eagle and Wal-Mart offer generic prescription medications at low cost (usually \$4 for a month of medication or \$10 for three months). Usually there are no income guidelines or restrictions regarding insurance coverage. Check with your local pharmacist for details.

Beaver County Cancer and Heart Association

Pharmaceutical Assistance Program 3582 Brodhead Rd., Ste. 201 Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 774-6600 bccha.org

The Pharmaceutical Assistance Program is designed to assist Beaver County residents who are without prescription coverage. The program helps them acquire their prescription medication by facilitating the paperwork between the patient, the prescribing physician and the pharmaceutical company who manufactures that particular medication.

They work with pharmaceutical firms that provide free medication and abide by their eligibility guidelines. For those patients whose medication is not available for free, discount program information is provided to them. There is no fee for this service.

American Kidney Fund (AKF)

(800) 638-8299 kidneyfund.org

The AKF's program provides financial assistance to qualified dialysis patients who are referred by their physicians and social workers. Safety Net Grants are provided for treatment-specific expenses such as transportation, over-the-counter medicines, medication co-payments and kidney donor expenses. For details, visit the above website or contact the social worker at your dialysis center.

BenefitsCheckUp

National Council on Aging

benefitscheckup.org

This is an online screening tool for prescription drug assistance programs. Provides a confidential report of public and private programs that can help you save money on or find help paying for prescription drugs, groceries, healthcare, utilities and other services.

Breathe Pennsylvania

(800) 220-1990 breathepa.org

The Patient Assistance program is a one-time-only grant for respiratory medications. Cost does not exceed \$300. Have your doctors office call for an application.

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Co-Pay Assistance Program

(412) 395-2873 (800) 726-2873 lls.org

The Co-Pay Assistance Program offers assistance to patients who qualify toward private health insurance premiums and co-pay obligations, Medicare Part B, Medicare Plan D, Medicare Supplementary Health Insurance and Medicare Advantage premium or copay obligations. To register for this national program, call LLS's office at (877) 557-2672.

Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage

(800) 633-4227 medicare.gov

Pennsylvanians have the option of choosing from a variety of prescription drug plans. Most plans will have a premium about \$34 per month, as well as a deductible, cost sharing and co-pays for medications. Medicare enrollees can contact the APPRISE Program's insurance counseling service at (724) 847-2262 for free, unbiased advice about whether to enroll in the Medicare Part D benefit. See page 46 to learn more about APPRISE.

NeedyMeds

(800) 503-6897 needymeds.org

A non-profit, free information source on pharmaceutical patient assistance programs and other sources of help for people who can't afford their medication and healthcare costs. The above website also lists about 11,000 free, low-cost and sliding-scale clinics.

Pharmaceutical Assistance

PACE and PACENET

(800) 225-7223

pacecares.magellanhealth.com

PACE stands for Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly; PACENET stands for PACE Needs Enhancement Tier. Both are funded by the Pennsylvania Lottery and administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Aging. These programs offer comprehensive prescription drug coverage to older Pennsylvanians and cover most medications that require prescriptions, including insulin, syringes and insulin needles. They do not cover over-the-counter medicines, medical equipment or doctor, hospital, dental or vision services. Enrollees must meet income/age guidelines to qualify.

PACE - Who is eligible:

To be eligible for PACE, you must be 65 years of age or older, a Pennsylvania resident for at least 90 days prior to the date of application, and cannot be enrolled in the Department of Public Welfare's Medicaid prescription benefit. For a single person, your total income must be \$14,500 or less. For a married couple, your combined total income must be \$17,700 or less.

PACENET - Who is eligible:

To be eligible for PACENET, you must be 65 years of age or older, a Pennsylvania resident for at least 90 days prior to the date of application, and you cannot be enrolled in the Department of Public Welfare's Medicaid prescription benefit. A single person's total income can be between \$14,500 - \$23,500. A couple's combined total income can be between \$17,700 - \$31,500.

PACE Plus Medicare

(800) 225-7223

PACE Plus Medicare offers eligible older Pennsylvanians one of the most generous prescription assistance plans in the United States. Under PACE Plus Medicare, PACE/ PACENET coverage is supplemented by federal Medicare Part D prescription coverage, offering older Pennsylvanians the best benefits of both programs. Older adults continue to receive the same prescription benefits while, in many cases, saving more money. Enrollees must meet income/age guidelines to qualify.

Note: Income guidelines may change in 2018-2019.



Partnership for Prescription Assistance

(888) 477-2669 pparx.org

Brings together America's pharmaceutical companies, doctors, other healthcare providers, patient advocacy organizations and community groups to help qualifying patients who lack prescription coverage get free or nearly free brand-name medicines. Each manufacturer has set their own eligibility guidelines.

Pennsylvania Department of Health

Chronic Renal Disease Program (800) 225-7223 health.pa.gov

Provides life-saving care and treatment for adults with end-stage renal disease. The program assists with costs related to dialysis services:

- renal transplantation,
- medical management,
- inpatient and outpatient services,
- medications and
- limited patient transportation.

You must meet income guidelines to qualify.

Pennsylvania Patient Assistance Program Clearinghouse (PAP)

(800) 955-0989 aging.pa.gov or pacecares.magellanhealth.com

Provides help with finding low-cost or no-cost prescription drug assistance from pharmaceutical companies. Each manufacturer has set their own eligibility guidelines.

Rx Outreach

(800) 769-3880 rxoutreach.com

This fully-licensed, non-profit, mail order pharmacy is committed to providing a safe, affordable and easy way for people of all ages to get the medications they need. The program offers prescription drugs to uninsured individuals and families, as well as those who have limited prescription drug coverage.

US Department of Veterans Affairs

(800) 827-1000 va.gov

Find out if you are eligible for VA benefits, how to apply and what it will cost by visiting the above website. Complete an application online or contact the VA Health Care Benefits Service Center.

Funeral Planning

Funerals: What you Should Know as a Consumer

When a loved one dies, grieving family members and friends are often confronted with dozens of decisions about the funeral, which must be made quickly and under emotional duress.

- What kind of funeral should it be?
- What funeral provider should you use?
- Should you bury or cremate the body, or donate it to science?
- What are you legally required to buy?
- What other arrangements should you plan?
- And, as callous as it may sound, how much is it all going to cost?

The increasing trend toward making funeral arrangements in advance suggests that many consumers want to compare prices and services so that ultimately, the funeral reflects a meaningful and well-informed purchasing decision, as well as a suitable tribute to your loved one.

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Planning for a Funeral

- 1. Shop around in advance. Compare prices from at least two funeral homes. Remember that you can supply your own casket or urn.
- 2. Ask for a price list. The law requires funeral homes to give you written price lists for products and services.
- 3. Resist pressure to buy goods and services you don't really want or need.
- **4. Avoid emotional overspending.** It's not necessary to have the fanciest casket or the most elaborate funeral to properly honor a loved one.
- **5. Recognize your rights.** Laws regarding funerals and burials vary from state to state. Know which goods or services the law requires you to purchase and which are optional.
- 6. Apply the same smart shopping techniques you use for other major purchases. You can cut costs by limiting the viewing to one day or one hour before the funeral, and by dressing your loved one in a favorite outfit instead of costly burial clothing.
- 7. Plan ahead. It allows you to comparison shop without time constraints, creates an opportunity for family discussion, and lifts some of the burden from your family.

Solving Problems

If you have a problem concerning funeral matters, it's best to try to resolve it first with the funeral director. You can also contact your state or local consumer protection agencies listed in your telephone book.

File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by contacting the Consumer Response Center at (877) 382-4357 or visit ftc.gov and use the online complaint form.

Source: Federal Trade Commission, ftc.gov.

Final Details

Final Details: A Checklist

When you have just suffered an emotionally devastating event such as the death of a spouse, the last thing you want to deal with is money and legal matters. But they do matter, now and for your future, so try to do the best you can. Many of these tasks can also be handled by family members and trusted friends, so allow them to assist you.

Within the First Month
Ask your bank to release joint bank account funds to you. In some states, joint bank accounts are
automatically frozen upon the death of one spouse.
Set up a new bank account.
Secure an ample number of certified copies of the death certificate.
Find important papers: deeds, bankbooks or account statements, stock certificates or investment account statements and insurance policies.
Locate important certificates: your marriage certificate, spouse's birth certificate, military discharge papers, Social Security card, tax forms and birth certificates of any minor children. These records are needed to establish claims for Social Security, life insurance or veteran's benefits.
Notify insurance companies (in writing) that insured your spouse of his/her death. Each company will need a statement of claim and a death certificate before the surviving spouse can receive benefits. Keep copies of all correspondence.
Contact your Social Security office to find out if you are eligible for new benefits. Social Security benefits are not automatically paid out after a death; you must apply for them.
Write a formal letter to your spouse's employer, union or any other group or professional organization with which
he may have had an association. Many of these organizations have insurance policies of which you may be the
beneficiary. Also inquire about any 401 (k), pension or company stock benefits. If your spouse was a veteran, apply
for veteran's benefits at the nearest Veterans Administration office. Keep copies of all correspondence.
Advise all creditors in writing, including issuers of credit cards, that your spouse has died. If you have any loans, find out if they are insured.
Consult a lawyer. Your family may be very well meaning, but they are not necessarily legal experts. Discuss fees before you engage any legal help.
Cancel email and website accounts, memberships in organizations, drivers license, notify election board and credit reporting agencies.
Within the First Six Months
See a tax accountant or tax lawyer. Federal law requires that an estate tax return be filed within nine months of the death, in many cases. Since tax laws are constantly being revised, it is important to seek out expert advice to determine your full tax liability.
Probate. These procedures can be a complex matter, depending upon the size of the estate and claims against it. In some states, probate can take a year to complete, so again, an attorney can be helpful.
Within the First Year
Determine your annual income , which consists of your salary (if you work), benefits and income-producing assets. This will include investments and savings.
Create a yearly budget.

Source: AARP.org.	
Additional Notes:	

Advance Directives and Powers of Attorney

An advance directive helps to ensure that your healthcare wishes will be respected if you can't speak or communicate. It is usually a written, legal document. If you don't have a written document, you may express your wishes verbally to your family members or health care agent. It is wise to have an advance directive in case you become severely injured or ill and cannot participate in decisions about your health and medical care. Living wills and medical powers of attorney are types of advance directives.

Durable Power of Attorney (DPOA)

This written document authorizes an agent to handle certain types of transactions. General powers of attorney are broad and allow many types of transactions. Conversely, limited powers of attorney are for a specific task. The power of attorney is "durable" because it remains valid even after the person no longer has legal capacity to handle transactions, possibly due to an injury or illness. All powers of attorney executed since 1993 in Pennsylvania are durable unless stated otherwise.

Guardianships

To qualify for a guardian, a person must be impaired in such a way that he is partially or totally unable to manage financial resources or meet essential physical health or safety requirements. Stringent standards apply. A petition must be filed when a guardian is necessary.

Living Wills

Also called a treatment directive, a living will lists your wishes about end-of-life medical treatment. It is used if you no longer have the ability to make decisions or communicate. A living will can be written so as to refuse life-sustaining treatment if the maker is incompetent and either in a terminal condition or a state of permanent unconsciousness.

Medical Power of Attorney

This legal document lets you appoint someone (usually called a healthcare agent or proxy) to make decisions about your medical care. You can create an advance directive at any time and change it whenever you wish. You should share copies with your primary care physician and family. Make sure your family knows where your advance directive is located, and give a copy to your healthcare proxy. For more information on writing an advance directive, visit webMD.com and type "advance directive" in the search box.

Trusts

A trust is similar to a box where you place property, except a person places money in a brokerage or bank account and designates a manager referred to as the "trustee." The trustee distributes trust assets to the beneficiaries you select. Your attorney might recommend a trust if you have a large estate, an estate with young beneficiaries or in situations with special circumstances.



Wills

A will is an important legal document and the cornerstone of most estate plans. In a will, you direct how your property is to be distributed and you name a personal representative to administer your estate. The executor collects the estate assets, pays the estate debts and makes distributions to the beneficiaries you have designated in your will. It is generally advisable to nominate one executor and an alternate in your will rather than naming two individuals to serve as co-executors.

Robert A. Banks

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- elder law
- estate planning
- estate administration
 - family law

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Legal Resources

Beaver County Bar Association and Lawyer Referral Service

788 Turnpike St. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 728-4888 bcba-pa.org

There is a \$25 fee that you pay the attorney at the time of your initial visit. This entitles you to a thirty minute consulation with the attorney. The fee for further legal work is established between you and the attorney.

Beaver County Office on Aging

1020 Eighth Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 847-2262 Local (888) 548-2262 Long Distance beavercountypa.gov/Depts/OOA

Offers legal assistance for wills and power of attorney documents for Beaver County residents ages 60 and older. A sliding fee scale is used to determine the amount owed based on income amounts.

Disabilities Rights Network Pennsylvania (DRP)

429 Fourth Ave., Ste. 701 Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 391-5225 disabilityrightspa.org

DRP provides legal consultation and representation for people with disabilities and their families to ensure their rights to live in their communities and receive the services they need, as well as a quality education, employment opportunities, housing options and the right to live free of discrimination, abuse and neglect.

Public Defenders Office of Beaver County Beaver County Courthouse

810 Third St. Beaver, PA 15009

(724) 770-4500

beavercountypa.gov

Chief Public Defender Paul Steff, Esq., represents individuals who cannot afford private counsel in criminal cases, mental health hearings, summary appeals, juvenile matters and in indirect criminal contempt hearings on violation of protection from abuse orders. In order to be represented, defendants must complete an application with the department to see if they qualify based on income guidelines.

Pennsylvania Health Law Project

(800) 274-3258 phlp.org

PHLP provides free legal services to lower-income consumers, seniors and persons with disabilities who are having trouble accessing publicly funded health care coverage or services. If you are denied or terminated from enrollment in a publicly funded healthcare program or have a service denied, reduced or terminated, PHLP may provide you free direct representation on your appeal.



Pennsylvania SeniorLAW Center

(877) 727-7529 seniorlawcenter.org

SeniorLAW helps to protect the legal rights and interests of seniors 60 and older by providing free legal services, community legal education, professional training, advice, information and referral services and advocacy.

The Arc of Beaver Achieva

Beaver Valley Mall 105 Route 18 Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 775-1602 achieva.info

Provides advocacy and support for individuals whose decisionmaking abilities are impaired based on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania criteria for guardianship. In tandem with the Beaver County Office on Aging, The Arc offers Older Adult Protective Services (OAPS) to prevent, reduce and eliminate danger to the well being and/or property of elderly persons. Caseworkers investigate and intervene in cases of abuse, neglect, abandonment, exploitation and other emergency situations. This help is available in older adults in the community, as well as those in licensed facilities. The individual's personal rights are respected and legal counseling is arranged, when appropriate. To file a report, call (724) 775-1786 or (800) 272-0567.

Notes:	 	 ,	

Tax Information

Pennsylvania Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

(888) 222-9190 revenue.pa.gov

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program, available to qualified seniors and permanently disabled citizens, is funded by the Pennsylvania Lottery and administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue.

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians who are:

- · Age 65 and older
- · Widows and widowers age 50 and older
- · People with disabilities age 18 and older

The Household Income Limits and Rebate amounts for homeowners are:

\$0-\$8,000 \$650 rebate \$8,001-\$15,000 \$500 rebate \$15,001-\$18,000 \$300 rebate \$18,001-\$35,000 \$250 rebate

Renters with incomes between \$0 and \$8,000 now receive a \$650 rebate; those with incomes between \$8,001 and \$15,000 receive a \$500 rebate.

Half of Social Security income and now Social Security CO-LAs – are excluded.

As a result of Act 156 of 2014, income eligibility guidelines for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program have changed so that income increases due solely to Social Security cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) will no longer disqualify claimants from receiving rebates.

The maximum standard rebate is \$650, but supplemental rebates for qualifying homeowners can boost rebates to \$975. The Revenue Department automatically calculates supplemental rebates for qualifying homeowners.

The PA-1000 booklet to claim the rebate is available after February 15. Claimants must file by June 30. Rebate checks are mailed beginning July 1 each year.

Call (888) 222-9190 or visit revenue.state.pa.us

Note: Occasionally, the filing date is extended. Rebate amounts are subject to change.

Taxpayer Advocate Service

(877) 777-4778 irs.gov/advocate

An independent organization of the Internal Revenue Service, Taxpayer Advocate assists taxpayers who have not been able to resolve tax-related issues through previous contacts.

Tax Preparation Assistance

AARP Tax-Aide

(888) 227-7669 aarp.org/money/taxaide

This free volunteer tax counseling and preparation service is available to people of all ages of middle and low income. Special attention is given to those who are ages 60 years and older. Sites include senior centers, libraries and malls. For those unable to visit a site, home visits are available. Electronic filing and online counseling are also available.

Call or visit the above website to find a location or for more information on the volunteer recruitment program.

Volunteer Income Tax Preparation Service Tax Counseling for the Elderly

Internal Revenue Service (800) 829-1040 irs.gov

The IRS trains volunteers for two programs designed to assist and counsel individuals about tax information: VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) and TCE (Tax Counseling for the Elderly).

Volunteers help low-income, individuals ages 60 and older, and disabled or housebound taxpayers complete federal, state and local tax returns.

Sessions are held in libraries, churches, senior centers and other community sites from mid-January through April 15. Free training is provided each year and volunteers are certified through testing.

For more information on Pennsylvania taxes and tax rebates

A number of services are available 24 hours a day on the toll-free FACT and Information Line: (888) PATAXES (728-2937). The FACT line allows you to:

- Check on the receipt of your personal income tax return, payment, estimated payments and track your refund. You also can monitor the progress of your Property Tax and Rent Rebate claim;
- Order a form, which can be either faxed or mailed to you; and
- Obtain answers to the most commonly asked questions for personal and business taxes.

Utility Assistance

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

(800) 692-7380 puc.pa.gov

The Public Utility Commission requires utility companies to have programs and protections that help low-income customers keep their utility service. These programs may help pay utility bills or lower the amount of electricity or natural gas you use. Local electric or natural gas companies may call them by different names but each company has the following programs.

Budget Billing: All residential customers may contact their electric or natural gas company to request budget billing at any time. The monthly bill will be the same each month. The utility company can adjust the bill four times a year higher or lower depending on the customer's usage. There is no charge for switching to budget billing.

Customer Assistance Programs (CAP): This program is set up between the utility company and a customer and allows low-income, payment troubled customers to pay utility bills based on household size and gross household income. CAP customers agree to make regular monthly payments, which are usually less than the current bill, in exchange for continued utility service. Each utility company may have a different name for this program. Contact your local utility provider for details.

Customer Assistance Referral and Evaluation Program (CARES): The CARES program helps customers with special needs such as consumers who are experiencing family emergencies, divorce, unemployment or medical emergencies. A CARES representative may assist with referrals for food programs, housing, energy grants, budget counseling and employment assistance. The program's goal is to provide support and direction to help customers pay their utility bills.

Low-Income Usage Reduction Program (LIURP): LIURP helps low-income residential customers lower the amount of electricity or natural gas used each month. The utility company may provide free home weatherization. A utility company representative may come to your home to install energy saving features to help reduce your monthly bill.

Energy, Heating, and Utilities Assistance

Center for Community Resources Utility Integrated Point

of Contact: (800) 481-3653 Columbia Gas: (800) 537-7431 Penn Power: (800) 720-3600 Peoples Gas: (800) 764-0111

Crisis Assistance

Beaver County Assistance Office

171 Virginia Ave. Rochester, PA 15074 (800) 653-3129 or (724) 773-7300

Income-eligible households can apply for crisis assistance when service has been turned off or are in danger of being without heat. Emergency situations include having broken heating equipment such as a furnace or leaking lines, a fuel shortage that may leave you without heat or having utility service shut off. The program normally opens around November each year.

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

(877) 395-8930

dhs.pa.gov/citizens/heatingassistanceliheap/

Income-eligible households can apply for energy assistance grants. The program is based on income and number in a household, and is administered by the Department of Human Services. LIHEAP provides cash assistance to help utility customers pay residential energy bills. The program normally opens around November each year.

How to Apply: There are three different ways you can apply for LIHEAP, online, on paper, or in person.

- 1. You can apply for the LIHEAP benefits online by using the COMPASS website at compass.state.pa.us. COMPASS is the name of the website where you can apply for LIHEAP and many other services that can help you make ends meet.
- 2. Download an application for LIHEAP benefits at dhs.pa.gov/ cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/c 266862.pdf. Return the completed form to your local county assistance office.
- 3. File an application at your local county assistance office.

For more information, contact your local county assistance office or contact the LIHEAP hotline at (866) 857-7095, Monday through Friday (individuals with hearing impairments may call 711).

Telephone Assistance

Public Utilities Commission Bureau of Consumer Services

(800) 692-7380 puc.state.pa.us

The law requires telephone companies to provide local telephone assistance programs for low-income consumers. Call your local telephone company to see if they offer any discounts.

Notes:	 	 	
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Consumer Advocacy

AARP

(800) 424-3410 aarp.org

AARP is a nonprofit organization for those ages 50 and older that is dedicated to enhancing the lives of everyone as they age. With 40 million members and hundreds of thousands of volunteers, AARP has the collective energy, commitment and power to advocate for social change. There are chapter meetings in Beaver County and throughout the state. Members also receive special products, services and discounts at participating retailers, hotels and more. Sign up online for AARP news, discount information, tips for healthy living, retirement planning and more.

Beaver County Alliance for Consumer Protection

469 Constitution Blvd., Ste. 3 Route 51 New Brighton, PA 15066 (724) 770-2078 acp-beaver.org

If you have a consumer question or problem with anything from buying a home or car to identity theft, the Alliance for Consumer Protection is the place to find answers and solutions. Services are free.

Beaver County Office on Aging The Ombudsman Program

1020 Eighth Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 480-8589 beavercountypa.gov/Depts/OOA

The Ombudsman program investigates and resolves complaints made by or on behalf of residents in nursing homes, personal care boarding homes, domiciliary care homes and other long-term care services.

Complaints may include any issue that affects the health, safety, welfare and rights of a resident or consumer. Staff and volunteers make facility visits, develop PEER programs and conduct training for residents, staff and the community. The Beaver County Office on Aging provides free, confidential ombudsman service.

National Do Not Call Registry

(888) 382-1222 donotcall.gov

The federal government created this registry to make it easy for consumers to stop receiving unwanted telemarketing calls in their homes. Register online or by calling the toll-free number above. This is a free service.

The Federal Trade Commission, Federal Communications Commission and individual states all enforce the Do Not Call Registry. Placing your phone number on it will stop most (but not all) telemarketing calls.

Pennsylvania Attorney General's Health Care Section

14th Floor, Strawberry Square Harrisburg, PA 17120 (877) 888-4877 attorneygeneral.gov

The Health Care Section, operating within the Bureau of Attorney General, protects the public from unfair healthcare practices and helps consumers get around barriers to proper care. While this state agency cannot represent consumers, it investigates and mediates consumer complaints regarding the healthcare service industry.

Pennsylvania Department of State

Bureau of Charitable Organizations 207 North Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17120 (800) 732-0999 dos.state.pa.us

Individuals who are solicited by charitable organizations can call the Department of State Bureau of Charitable Organizations to inquire if a charity is registered.

Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA)

555 Walnut St., Fifth Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17101 (800) 684-6560 oca.state.pa.us

OCA is a state agency that represents the interests of Pennsylvania utility consumers before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC), federal regulatory agencies, and state and federal courts. If you have a question or problem with your utility service, call OCA for help.

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) Bureau of Consumer Services

Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105 (800) 692-7380 puc.state.pa.us

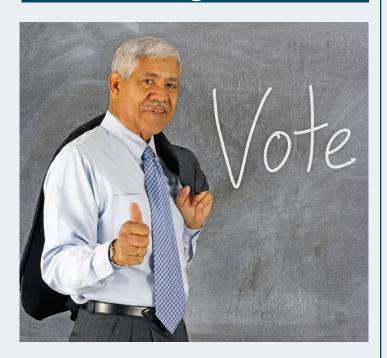
The PUC balances the needs of consumers and utilities to ensure safe and reliable utility service at reasonable rates, protects the public interest, educates consumers to make independent and informed utility choices, furthers economic development and fosters new technologies and competitive markets in an environmentally sound manner.

Southwestern Pennsylvania Partnership for Aging (SWPPA)

1323 Freedom Rd. Cranberry Twp., PA 16066 (724) 779-3200 swppa.org

This regional coalition of individuals and groups is committed to the well being of the aging population. SWPPA's mission is to serve as a catalyst to promote policies and programs to improve the quality of life for older adults.

Voter Registration



Beaver County Bureau of Elections

Beaver County Courthouse 810 Third St. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 770-4440 beavercountypa.gov

Voter Registration

If you are already registered to vote, you do not have to re-register unless you have moved or wish to change your name or political party affiliation. If you are not registered, do so by visiting the Pennsylvania Department of State at pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication. aspx; follow the instructions to download, print and mail the registration form. You can also call the number above to find out where to register.

Absentee Ballots

In order to vote by absentee ballot, you must be a registered voter unless you are a member of the armed forces or a hospitalized or bedridden veteran outside your county of residence and meet other criteria. Applications for absentee ballots are available at the above address and phone number.

In Pennsylvania, the County Board of Elections must receive your application for absentee ballot no later than 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before the election. In emergency situations (such as a disability or unexpected illness) you can submit an emergency application for absentee ballot; this must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on the Friday before Election Day.

Elected Officials

U.S. Congressional Districts

12th, Keith Rothfus (R) 650 Corporation St., Šte. 304 Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 359-1626 rothfus.house.gov

State Legislative Districts

10th, Aaron Bernstine (R) 438 Line Ave. Ellwood City, PA 16117 (724) 752-2120 repbernstine.com

14th, Jim Marshall (R)

Chippewa Township Municipal Bldg. 2811 Darlington Rd., Ste. 1 Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 847-1352 repmarshall.com

15th, Jim Christiana (R)

3468 Brodhead Rd., Ste. 9 Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 728-7655 repchristiana.com

(Please note: Will change as of November 2018 due to general election.)

16th, Robert Matzie (D)

1240 Merchant St., First Floor Ambridge, PA 15003 (724) 266-7774 pahouse.com/Matzie

State Senatorial Districts

46th, Senator Camera Bartolotta (R) SouthPointe Office 135 Technology Dr., Ste. 202 Canonsburg, PA 15317 (724) 746-3762 senatorbartolotta.com

47th, Elder Vogel Jr. (R)

488 Adams St. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 774-0444 senatoreldervogel.com

Governor of Pennsylvania

Tom Wolf (D) 301 Fifth Ave., Ste. 240 Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (412) 565-5700 governor.pa.gov

US Senators

Pat Toomey (R) 310 Grant St., Ste. 1440 Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 803-3501 toomey.senate.gov

Bob Casey (D) 310 Grant St., Ste. 2415 Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 803-7370 casey.senate.gov

Veterans



United States Department of Veterans Affairs

(800) 827-1000 va.gov

United States military veterans are entitled to various county, state and federal benefits such as:

- health care services including hospital and nursing home care;
- trauma and alcohol counseling;
- medical evaluations;
- disability benefits;
- education and training benefits;
- vocational rehabilitation and employment;
- home loans;
- burial benefits:
- · dependents and survivors benefits; and
- life insurance.

The administration and variety of benefits varies from the county to state to federal level. Many benefits are time-sensitive. For more information on the veterans benefits listed above, contact the following offices:

Federal VA

Pittsburgh Regional Office

1000 Liberty Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (800) 827-1000 va.gov

State Military and Veterans Affairs

Deputy Adjutant General's Office

1000 Liberty Ave. #1612 Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (412) 395-6225 dmva.state.pa.us

Beaver County Veteran Affairs

810 Third St. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 770-4450 beavercountypa.gov

Aid and Attendance and Housebound Benefits Program for Veterans

(800) 827-1000 va.gov

The Aid and Attendance (A&A) Special Pension provides benefits for veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of another person to assist in eating, bathing, dressing and undressing or toileting. It also includes individuals who are blind or a patient in a nursing home because of mental or physical incapacity. Assisted care in an assisted living facility also qualifies.

Call to request the forms and instructions for applying. Applications are also available at the Beaver County Courthouse, 810 Third St., Beaver PA, ground level. (Discharge papers are required.) Filling out the technical forms necessary to apply for this benefit may seem daunting to veterans and their families, but help is available.

Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America

1113 Main St. Pittsburgh, PA 15215 (800) 775-9323 kpva.org

The Paralyzed Veterans (PVA) of America is a congressionally chartered veterans' service organization that has developed a unique expertise on many issues relating to the special needs of its members: veterans of the armed services who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction.

PVA is the leading advocate for quality health care for its members, research and education addressing spinal cord injury and dysfunction, benefits available as a result of its members' military service, and civil rights and opportunities that maximize the independence of its members.

Southwestern Veterans Center

7060 Highland Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (412) 665-6706 swvc.org

The Southwestern Veterans Center provides a broad spectrum of healthcare and related services to Pennsylvania veterans and spouses who are disabled, chronically ill or in need of specialized care.

The center helps veterans function independently within the limitations of their illnesses. The center has 204 beds with full nursing care and 32 beds for veterans needing minimal care. Forty-four beds are set aside for treatment of residents with some form of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease.

The facility includes a chapel, pharmacy, canteen, barber and beautician services, dining rooms, library and a multipurpose room for large gatherings.

Veterans

Burial Benefits

Beaver County extends an allowance of \$75 toward the funeral and burial of honorably discharged veterans who served during any war in which the United States has engaged, and whose legal residence at the time of death was in Beaver County. One day's service wartime fulfills time requirement for eligibility. Application for this benefit must be made within one year after the death of the veteran.

Ask your funeral director or stop into VA offices for the proper forms. You will need to provide a certified copy of the death certificate, receipted funeral bill and discharge papers. The VA provides partial reimbursement for burial expenses for veterans who are in receipt of monies from the VA or expire in a VA facility. The VA provides certain benefits, including internment in a national cemetery and partial reimbursement for burial expenses.

Disability Compensation

Monetary benefits (called disability compensation) are paid to veterans who are disabled by injury or disease incurred or aggravated during military service. The amount paid varies with the degree of disability and is paid monthly. Payments are made from the date of separation if the claim is filed within one year. The VA office will assist with the completion of the required forms and follow through with the claim until completed.

Flags and Grave Markers

Beaver County provides flag and grave markers for Memorial Day observance. These flags and markers are to be used to decorate the graves of wartime veterans. The grave markers state "US Veteran."

Headstone

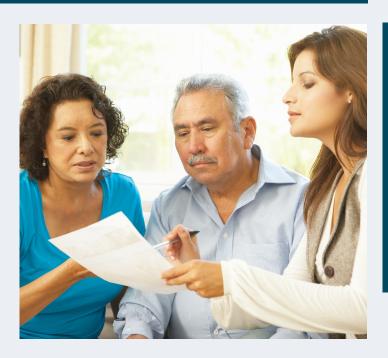
An individual may receive up to \$50 toward the base for federal marker or headstone.

Non-Service Connected Disability Pension

Veterans with low incomes who are permanently and totally disabled may be eligible for monetary support if they have 90 days of active military service, one day of which was during a period of war and character of service is under conditions other than dishonorable.

Spouse's Burial Allowance

Widows/widowers of eligible military personnel are entitled to a \$75 burial allowance. Their spouse must have been an honorably discharged veteran with wartime service and a legal resident of Beaver County at the time of his or her death. Application for this benefit must be made within one year after the death of the veteran's spouse.



Survivors Benefits

Surviving spouses who have not remarried, unmarried children under 18 or those between ages 18 and 23 if attending a VA-approved school may be eligible for benefits under certain circumstances.

Unemployment Compensation

While this benefit may be available to all veterans, the requirements and benefits vary from state to state. If you would like more information on this service, contact your local unemployment office for details or visit the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry Unemployment Compensation website.

Veterans Emergency Assistance

Pennsylvania wartime veterans or widows of a wartime veteran who experience a sudden loss of income within the last 180 days may apply for a three-month assistance program.

You must provide:

- current rent or mortgage receipt.
- gas, oil or electric bills.
- any documented out-of-pocket monthly medical expense.
- amount paid for food.
- marriage certificate.
- birth certificate of dependents.
- a letter from the former employer stating the date last worked and the reason why you are no longer working.

Transportation

A variety of transportation options for older adults are available in Beaver County, including the Reduced Fare Program, MATP (Medical Assistance Transportation Program) and the Free Senior Transit Program.

Beaver County Transit Authority (BCTA)

200 West Washington St. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 728-8600 BCTA.com

DART

Demand and Response Transit (DART) service is a door-to-door advanced reservation, shared-ride system of the Beaver County Transit Authority (BCTA). It is operated in both urban and rural areas of Beaver County. Service is available to persons who do not live within 1/4-3/4 mile of regular BCTA fixed route buses, and to persons with specialized transportation needs.

Reduced Fare Program

Customers having a disability that meets the definition established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) can ride BCTA fixed route services at half fare, rounded to the lower nickel! This program is also in effect all day, every day.

To become eligible, a customer must fill out a brief application and have their disability verified in writing by their doctor or other designated medical service provider. The completed application is then presented at the Rochester Transportation Center, where the customer receives a reduced fare identification card. This identification card can be displayed to the driver upon boarding to take advantage of this program.

As with the free senior transit program, this card can also be used to receive reduced fare transportation on BCTA's DART system, and is valid on all transit systems in Pennsylvania, so it can be used when visiting Pittsburgh or traveling across the state.

Customers with temporary disabilities can still be eligible for this program; however, they will be issued an identification card that expires on a predetermined date.

Free Senior Transit Program

Persons aged 65 and older can ride free on BCTA fixed route services all day, every day. To become eligible, a customer must present proof of age and fill out a brief application at the Rochester Transportation Center. Once eligibility is established, the customer receives a free senior transit identification card that can be displayed to the driver upon boarding to take advantage of this program.

This card can also be used to receive reduced fare transportation on BCTA's DART system, and is valid on all transit systems in Pennsylvania, so it can be used when visiting Pittsburgh or traveling across the state.

Accessibility

For our valued customers with disabilities, as well as seniors with limited mobility, BCTA offers a wide range of accommodations to make travel more convenient, safe and comfortable. The following is an overview of these accommodations.

- Lift-equipped vehicles
- Kneeling and low-floor vehicles
- Passenger assistance
- Designated seats for seniors and the mobility-impaired
- Armband program for the visually impaired
- Stop announcements
- Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD)
- Materials in alternative formats

Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP)

MATP provides non-emergency medical transportation to residents of Beaver County who hold a valid Pennsylvania Medical Assistance (MA) card. In Beaver County, the Beaver County Transit Authority administers the MATP Program. The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services funds the program.

This special program offers transportation or mileage reimbursement to help clients access medical care or other services from Medical Assistance providers. We are required to provide you with the least-costly, most appropriate transportation service available that will meet your needs.

MATP services can be used for medical appointments or most other services paid for by Medical Assistance. These other medical services include therapies, tests, dental visits, trips to the pharmacy to pick up prescriptions, mental health treatment, drug and alcohol addiction treatment, and trips to medical equipment suppliers.

A client cannot use MATP:

- for emergency or ambulance transportation.
- for non-medical trips such as shopping and social activities.
- to obtain medical care that is not covered by Medical Assistance.

Who is eligible for MATP?

Beaver County residents holding a valid Pennsylvania Medical Assistance (MA) card may be eligible for MATP services.

What transportation services does MATP provide?

Depending on your origin and destination, your specific needs, and the costs involved, MATP can provide transportation in one of the following ways:

- Public fixed route bus
- Shared-ride, lift-equipped vehicles
- Mileage reimbursement

Transportation

AARP Driver Safety Program

(888) 227-7669 aarp.org

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the the nation's first and largest classroom refresher course for drivers ages 50 and older. The eight-hour course is designed to help update driving skills and knowledge of the rules of the road, learn about normal age-related physical changes and how they impact driving, and obtain an insurance discount. To learn more and to locate classes in your area, visit the above website and type "Driver Safety Program" in the search box.

A Guide to Talking With Older Drivers

The Pennsylvania Department of Motor Vehicles has a very useful booklet called *Talking With Older Drivers: A Guide for* Family and Friends that helps family members and friends know when and how to get involved in an older person's decision on whether to continue or modify their driving. The booklet can be downloaded online. Go to dmv.pa.gov/Driver-Services/Mature-Drivers/Pages/default.aspx.

American Kidney Fund

(800) 638-8299 kidneyfund.org

Offered to needy dialysis and kidney transplant patients nationwide. Grants are provided for treatment-specific expenses such as transportation.

Access-Able Travel Source

access-able.com

This website provides information and resources for travelers with disabilities, the mature travel. Disability magazines, access guides, wheelchair travel, scooter rental, accessible transportation, world destinations, lists of travel professionals, links and tips for the traveler with disabilities.

Mobility Works

(412) 824-8091 mobilityworks.com

Rents and sells new and used handicap vans with wheelchair ramps or lifts designed to accommodate special needs. Visit this website for a list of national owner-operated dealerships that participate in this network.

Handicap Parking

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation 1101 South Front St. Harrisburg, PA 17104 (800) 932-4600 dmv.pa.gov

Special parking placards and license plates are available for those with disabilities. To apply for a placard and/or license plate, the forms must be filled out by a physician and notarized. There is no fee for the placard. However, there is a \$11 charge for the special license plate. Forms can be obtained by calling PennDOT's customer call center or can be downloaded from the website.

Retired Status Registration Motor Vehicle Registration

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation 1101 South Front St. Harrisburg, PA 17113 (800) 932-4600 dmv.pa.gov

Eligible applicants, regardless of age, must be retired and receiving Social Security, SSI payments, retirement benefits or other pensions and annuities. The total income from all sources named above must not exceed \$19,200. To be eligible for the retired status processing fee, the vehicle must be titled and registered in the person's name that meets the above qualifications. If the vehicle is registered jointly to two people, at least one of the registrants must meet the requirements above. Only one vehicle per person may be registered for the \$10 processing fee. Forms are available at notaries, tag agencies and dealerships, by calling PennDOT's customer call center or online.

Seniors For Safe Driving

(724) 283-0245 or (800) 559-4880 seniorsforsafedriving.com

This driver improvement program is designed especially for seniors. It allows drivers a chance to refresh their driving techniques, develop positive driving attitudes and regain lost confidence. There is no written exam or behind-the-wheel test. A nominal tuition fee is charged. Call for class locations, dates and times. You can also register for a class online at the above website.



Housing Options

Housing Options for Seniors

As we mature in years and our lifestyles change, we may also consider changing residences—either out of choice or need. Perhaps you want to downgrade to a more maintenance-free home or live in a community with others who share similar interests. Or maybe you need help with a health concern or other personal care. In any event, the type of housing you choose is crucial for your future contentment, comfort and safety.

Fortunately, these days, older adults have an array of living arrangements to choose from, and understanding all your options is the first step in making a choice that is right for you. This section of the *Resource Guide* can help you to understand the various types of housing options so you can make an informed decision.

DOM Care

Domiciliary Care is an adult foster care program that matches people who cannot live independently with individuals or families who are willing to open their homes for caregiving. For more details, turn to page 10.

Public Housing

In the first part of this section, you will find information about senior apartments for rent in our area. This form of public housing is appropriate for eligible low-income seniors, families and persons with disabilities.

Independent Living

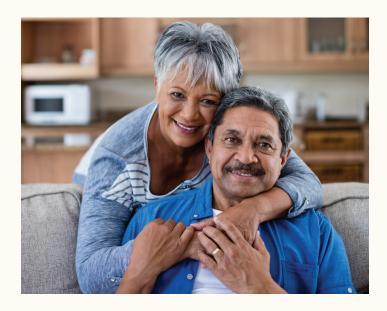
Independent residential communities are perfect for older adults seeking an active yet hassle-free lifestyle. These residences can be apartments, condos or cottages that offer services and features suitable for retirees, such as housekeeping and laundry, social programs, transportation services, organized outings and limited medical services.

Choosing a Personal Care, Assisted Living or Nursing Home

The next part of this section is geared towards those who are transitioning from living independently into a residence where they can receive help with daily living activities that they may no longer be able to do on their own.

Personal Care Homes, Assisted Living

Personal Care Homes and Assisted Living facilities are for older adults who need some in-home, non-medical assistance but don't require the level of continuous care that a nursing home offers. This type of housing option typically provides help with things like meals, bathing, housekeeping and other needs. The important thing is to match, as closely as possible, the assisted living arrangements with the senior's needs and desires. The living quarters are usually private apartments or individual living spaces with common areas for socializing with other residents.



Nursing Homes

Nursing homes are for seniors in need of 24-hour skilled nursing care. They can be freestanding or part of a senior community, and they provide a lot of the same care options offered in other senior communities such as room and board, personal care, and protection and supervision. The length of stay can be short-term or long-term, and the level of care generally falls under three categories—basic care, skilled care and sub-acute care—depending on how comprehensive the resident's needs are.

Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC)

These communities allow seniors to "age in place" with flexible accommodations that are designed to meet health and housing needs as these needs change over time. Residents sign a long-term contract that offers housing, services and medical care—usually all in one location. This allows residents to remain in familiar settings as they grow older.

Notes:



Now accepting applications for residency at **Green Diamond Place!**

Apartment Amenities:

- Spacious, one bedroom apartments
- Rent is based on income
- Fully equipped kitchen

- Most utilities included in rent
- 24-hour emergency maintenance
- Small pets welcome

Call or visit Green Diamond Place today!

Address: 379 Mellon Avenue Baden, 15005

Phone: 724-869-2080

Designed to meet the needs of adults 62 years of age and older.

Professionally managed by SeniorCare Network

www.SrCareNetwork.org



Senior Apartments

Public housing is rental housing provided to income-eligible families, seniors and persons with disabilities. Public housing comes in all sizes and types – from single-family houses to high-rise apartments for seniors. A resident in public housing may either pay 30 to 40 percent of their adjusted gross income to rent, or a flat fee based on the unit for which they qualify. The type of payment depends on the way the building is funded, so contact each building for information.

Eleanor Roosevelt 740 Sheffield Ave. Aliquippa, PA 15001 (724) 775-1220

Sheffield Towers 100 Superior Ave. Aliquippa, PA 15001 (724) 775-1220

Towne Towers434 Franklin St.
Aliquippa, PA 15001
(724) 378-0920

Ambridge Towers 500 Beaver Rd. Ambridge, PA 15003 (724) 775-1220

Green Diamond Place Apartments379 Mellon Ave.
Baden, PA 15005
(724) 869-2080

Beaver Village Apartments 699 Fifth St. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-4577

King Beaver Apartments 680 Canal St. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-1220

Westbridge Apartments 725 Riverside Dr. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-1220

Beaver Falls Plaza 1008 Seventh Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 843-4822

Brodhead Apartments Seventh Ave. and 12th St. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 775-1220

Center Township Senior Apartments

3671 Brodhead Rd. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 774-5583

Lutheran Village at Chippewa139 Gertrude St.
Beaver Falls, PA 15010
(724) 846-2067

PRV Manor Apartments 1626 Seventh Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 770-5000

Francis A. Farmer Apartments

274 Friendship Circle Brighton Twp., Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-1220

Friendship Commons 200 Friendship Circle Brighton Township, PA 15066 (724) 775-1220

Conway Towers 904 Third Ave. Conway, PA 15027 (724) 869-7148

George Werner Apartments 599 Eighth St. Freedom, PA 15042 (724) 775-1220

Koppel Terrace Senior ApartmentsFirst Ave. and Richard St.
Koppel, PA 16136
(724) 775-1220

Leetsdale Manor 27 Spencer St. Leetsdale, PA 15056 (800) 238-7555

Corak Towers 500 Beaver Ave. Midland, PA 15059 (724) 775-1220

A.C. Edgecombe Apartments
1150 Bechtel St.
Monaca, PA 15061
(724) 775-1220

Monacatootha Apartments 105 Fourth St. Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 775-1220

Dawes Manor 1450 Third Ave. New Brighton, PA 15066 (724) 775-1220



Thomas Bishop

1023 Sixth Ave. New Brighton, PA 15066 (724) 775-1220

E.B. McNitt Apartments 805 Allegheny St. New Brighton, PA 15066 (724) 847-1282

Gordon Camp Apartments 225 Jefferson St. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 775-1220 Joseph Edward Apartments 330 Connecticut Ave.

Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 775-1220

Pinney Street Apartments 420 Pinney St. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 770-5000

Riverview Apartments 411 Delaware Ave. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 775-1220

Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA)

Affordable Apartment Locator (877) 428-8844 TTY 7-1-1

pahousing search.com

The Apartment Locator is a free service that links consumers to affordable housing options throughout the state. The above website offers information about apartment locations, rental prices, accessibility features, development amenities, current vacancies and waiting lists.

Senior Apartments

Housing Authority of the County of Beaver

300 State Ave., Beaver, PA. 15009



Senior Housing

- Affordable
- Accessible
- Available **Equal Housing Opportunity**



For Information and Application



Contact (724) 775-1220, Ext. 28 or visit beavercountyhousing.org

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Things to Consider When Choosing an Apartment

This form is a tool to help assist you in organizing your thoughts and questions about each location. Use one sheet for each location and make copies to keep on hand. Feel free to ask questions pertaining to your personal needs when you visit.

Name of apartment:	
Address:	
	_Contact:
	_Hours of operation:
Cost:	
Comments:	

Apartment income limit	Age limit			Waiting list period				
\$	None	Years	Now	3 mont	hs 6 r	nonths	more	
Pets allowed	Smoking	allowed		Handic	ар Асс	essible		
Yes No	Yes	No		Yes		No		
Rent	Utilities	included		Tra	ish chu	ite		
Present rent \$ Portion of income %	Yes	No		Yes		No		
Bedrooms	Security/	Intercom		E	levator	s		
1 2	Yes	No		1	2	3		
Balcony	Stor	rage		Lau	ndry ro	om		
1 2	Yes	No		1	2	3		
Windows/lighting	Poor		Fair				Good	
Apartment's spacing/size	Poor		Fair				Good	
Building's condition	Poor		Fair				Good	
Building's cleanliness	Poor		Fair				Good	
Closets/cupboards/counters	Poor		Fair				Good	
Bathrooms	Poor		Fair				Good	
Laundry	Poor		Fair				Good	
Transportation	Poor		Fair				Good	
Closet storage	Poor		Fair				Good	
Activities on site	Poor		Fair				Good	
Parking	Poor		Fair				Good	

BEAVER FALLS PLAZA

1008 Seventh Ave., Beaver Falls (724) 843-4822



Spacious One and Two Bedroom Apartments

- · 24 Hour Emergency Maintenance
- · On-site Management and Maintenance
 - · Carpet/Blinds on All Windows
- · Individually Controlled Heat and Air Conditioning
 - · Generous Closet Space
 - Potential Rapid Occupancy
 - · No Application Fee
 - · All Utilities Included in Rent
 - · Income Limits Apply



• 1 Person hh...\$16,000 • 2 Persons hh...\$18,250 Maximum income for eligibility is: 1 Person \$42,600; 2 Persons \$48,650



Notes:		

rochester manor+villa Senior Living Community



HELPING YOU GET BETTER... FASTER.

Cutting edge post-acute rehabilitation, 7 days/week.

Personalized schedules from our Physical, Occupational + Speech Therapists.

Specializing in Orthopedics + Orthopedic post-surgery care.

We accept Medicare, Medicaid, and most managed care insurance plans.

Call Today for More Information!

174 Virginia Avenue • Rochester

(724) 775-6400

rochestermanorandvilla.com

Choosing an Assisted Living, Personal Care or Nursing Home

Placing a loved one in an assisted living, personal care or nursing home can be an overwhelming and emotional undertaking for both the individual being placed and the family and friends helping in the process. If your loved one does not need supervision 24 hours a day, a personal care home may be more suitable; they provide lodging, food and personal care support services (such as bathing and dressing) for those in need of care. Finding an assisted living, personal care or nursing home can be a difficult and confusing experience, so plan ahead; talk with family, friends, social workers, doctors and a local ombudsman. Doing thorough research will satisfy you and your loved one that the facility you have chosen will provide the best care and comfort possible.

How Much Will It Cost for an Assisted Living/ Personal Care Home?

The median cost of an assisted living/personal care home in Pennsylvania ranges from \$2,000 to \$4,000 a month. This cost can be funded in several ways: private pay, with costs covered by the individual receiving the care; through Supplemental Security Income (SSI) where one can apply for Personal Care Supplement; or through a "third party agreement" where an outside source (such as family or friends) helps to pay for services.

How Much Will It Cost for Nursing Home Care?

The average monthly cost of nursing home care in Pennsylvania is about \$8,000. Medicaid pays the cost of nursing home care for people with limited incomes. Long-term care insurance, Medicare and private pay are ways in which to pay for care, so assess your financial situation.

- First Steps for Prospective Residents
 Ask your doctor for a complete medical evaluation to decide if an assisted living, personal care or nursing home placement is right at this time.
- If financial assistance is needed, contact the Beaver County Office on Aging at (724) 847-2262 (Local) or (888) 548-2262 (Long Distance) to request an assessment for level of care.
- Please consider that the process of locating a residence and filling out the necessary paperwork takes time, and many facilities have waiting lists. Whenever possible, give yourself ample time to plan in advance.
- Speak to an ombudsman who has knowledge about the process.
- Consider location. Is it close to family and friends?

Researching an Assisted Living, Personal Care or Nursing Home

There is no need to be hesitant about paying a visit to a facility that you are considering for a loved one. Ask to be taken on a guided tour of the home and be sure to ask lots of questions.

Choosing an Assisted Living, Personal Care or Nursing Home

This form is a tool to assist you in organizing your thoughts and questions about each location. Use one sheet for each location and make copies to keep on hand. Feel free to ask any additional questions pertaining to your personal needs when visiting each facility.

Name of home:			
Address of home:			
Phone number:Contact:			
Email:Website:			
Date of visit:			
Cost:			
Comments:			
		1	T _a
Basic Information	Yes	No	Comments
ullet Comfort — Is the home clean, well lit, odor free and at a comfortable temperature?			
• Safety — Does the facility have an emergency plan for patients in case of fire, flood or other disasters?			
• Safety — Is it a safe environment with fire extinguishers, open pathways and smoke detectors?			
• Rooms — Are personal items displayed for each resident? Are call buttons within easy reach? How many residents are in a room?			
• Bathrooms — Are bathrooms clean and equipped with handrails and a call button that is easy to reach?			
• Dining — Observe mealtimes. If meals for the month are not posted, request a copy. Does the food look and smell appetizing? Does the staff spend time feeding residents and not rushing them through their meals?			
• Social activities — Is an activities calendar posted? If not, request a copy. Are there a variety of activities to meet the needs of your loved one?			
• Staff — Is there enough staff to meet the residents' needs? Are they visible and willing to talk with you? Does the staff get residents up and dressed each day? Is there a social worker and dietician on staff?			
• Residents and family members — Ask residents and their family members what they like most and least about the facility. Do residents appear to be content?			
• Consult an ombudsman — They advocate for residents of nursing and personal care homes, or consumers of any long-term care service.			
• Documents — Request the state facility inspection report			

Personal Care and Assisted Living Homes

Blair Personal Care Homes

1031 Mercer Rd. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 843-2209 blairpersonalcarehomes.com/contact. html

Cambridge Village

1600 Darlington Rd. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 846-1400 cambridge-village.com

Elderberry Court

1399 Merchant St. Ambridge, PA 15003 (724) 266-4077

Elmcroft Of Chippewa

104 Pappan Business Dr. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 891-3333 elmcroft.com/community/elmcroft-ofchippewa-pennsylvania/

Evans Personal Care Home

503 Centennial Ave. New Galilee, PA 16141 (724) 336-1028

Franciscan Manor

71 Darlington Rd.
Beaver Falls, PA 15010
(724) 891-1150
fivestarseniorliving.com/communities/pa/beaver-falls/franciscan-manor

Hunter's Personal Care Home

1916 Main St. Aliquippa, PA 15001 (724) 378-1205

Lakeview Personal Care Home

498 Lisbon Rd.
Darlington, PA 16115
(724) 495-6139
thenugentgroup.com/locations/lakev-iew-personal-care.php

Maplewood Personal Care Home

461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003 (724) 266-4485

Rochester Manor + Villa

174 Virginia Ave. Rochester, PA 15074 (724) 775-6400 rochestermanorandvilla.com

Notes:

Smith's Personal Care Home

300 Pine St. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 847-1093

St. Barnabas Beaver Meadows

5130 Tuscarawas Rd. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 495-1600 stbarnabashealthsystem.com/retirement-living/beaver-meadows/

The Creek Meadows

1630 Ellwood City Rd. Zelienople, PA 16063 (724) 452-7378 creekmeadows.com

Trinity Oaks

160 Chapel Rd. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 728-6257 trinityoakscare.com/personal-care/

Trinity Oaks II

117 Shadyrest Rd. Ellwood City, PA 16117 (724) 752-9166 trinityoakscare.com/personal-care/



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www.FranciscanManorSeniorLiving.com

PERSONAL CARF

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Skilled Nursing Homes

nursing home (sometimes called a skilled nursing facility, or SNF) is a residence that provides the following services to people of all ages who need this level of living assistance: 24-hour supervision, medical care, room and board and meals.

Stays can be short-term for those recovering from illness or surgery, or long-term for individuals who can no longer live independently. In either case, a licensed staff provides comprehensive nursing care, including medication administration, dietary requirements and all treatment regimens.

Additionally, all residents are under the care of an on-call physician. Most nursing homes also offer a creative variety of social activities tailored to their residents.

Check the status of a nursing home's license or current listing by contacting the Pennsylvania Department of Health at health.pa.gov or (877) PA-HEALTH.

Medicaid pays the cost of nursing home care for people with limited incomes. Long-term care insurance, Medicare and private pay are ways in which to pay for care, and individuals should assess their financial situation before deciding on nursing home care.

Please consider that the process of locating a residence and filling out the necessary paperwork takes time, and many facilities have waiting lists. Whenever possible, give yourself ample time to plan in advance. All nursing homes are state licensed and regulated, and the federal government regulates nursing homes that receive federal funds.

On the next page is a list of nursing homes in Beaver County.





Beaver Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center

616 Golf Course Rd. Aliquppia, PA 15001 guardianeldercare.com/locations/beaver/ (724) 375-0345

Beaver Valley Health and Rehabilitation Center

257 Georgetown Rd. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 846-8200

Brighton Rehab and Wellness Center

246 Friendship Circle Beaver, PA 15009 brightonwellness.com (724) 775-7100

Concordia at Villa St. Joseph

1030 State St.
Baden, PA 15005
concordialm.org/locations/concordia-at-villa-st-joseph?service = 2489
(724) 869-6300

Providence Care Center

900 Third Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 myprovidencecarecenter.com (724) 846-8504

Rochester Manor + Villa

174 Virginia Ave. Rochester, PA 15074 rochestermanorandvilla.com (724) 775-6400

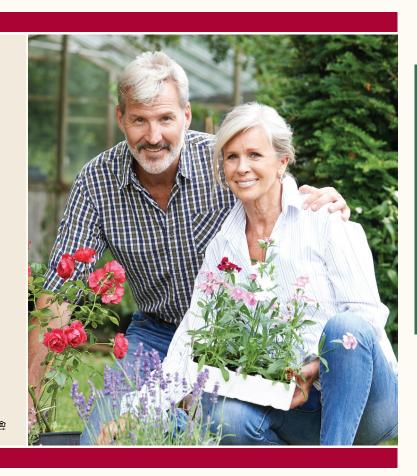
Nursing Care for **Your Generation**

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Homeward Bound PROGRAM



724-846-8504 myprovidencecarecenter.com



Material	
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Senior Centers



enior centers are places for older adults to make new friends or gather with old friends, share a meal and get involved in a variety of activities. The following are just some of the exciting opportunities that await older adults.

- life enrichment classes
- exercise programs
- trips to interesting places
- transportation to and from the center
- financial and benefit counseling

Senior center activities are geared to the social, intellectual, cultural, economic, emotional and physical needs or interests of adults 50 years of age and older. In addition, the centers offer helpful information about benefits that are available to older adults in Beaver County. A shared lunch meal is also available at some of the centers on days that they are open. Some of the available activities and opportunities include:

Shared Meals

The menus are designed to provide an attractive meal to please older adults. Special diets are also available to individuals with a diet prescription. Meals are planned with input from seniors and designed to meet one-third of the older adult's daily nutritional requirements.

Life Enrichment

Education and seminars are available to address different types of activities and interests. These programs are selected by older adults and can range from dancing and history to gardening or therapeutic massage. Topics are limited only by the seniors' imaginations.

Health and Wellness Program

Supports and encourages older adults in making informed decisions about consumer health issues. Fitness and exercise programs are a fun and invigorating component to the program.

Counseling

Information and guidance regarding public and private services and benefit programs are available to assist older adults. This includes assistance with paperwork, forms and agency contact information.

Volunteer Programs

Opportunities are available for older adults to provide meaningful services to the community. Coordinators recruit and train volunteers to help in the center and other agencies in their neighborhood. Opportunities may include the following: clerical work, telephone reassurance, helping to prepare, deliver meals to the homebound, and friendly visits.

Beaver County Senior Centers

Center at the Mall Lutheran Service Society

Beaver Valley Mall 284 Mall Blvd. Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 728-1422 centeratthemall.com

Baden Community Center Circle of Friends St. John's Baptist School

371 Linmore Ave. Baden, PA 15005 (724) 869-4224 cofbeaver.com

New Brighton Community Center Circle of Friends

1851 Third Ave. (Madonna Hall at Holy Family) New Brighton, PA 15066 (724) 846-1959 cofbeaver.com

Midland Satellite Center Circle of Friends

Knights of Columbus 838 Midland Ave. Midland, PA 15059 (724) 869-4224 cofbeaver.com

Aliquippa Satellite Center Circle of Friends St. Titus Church

952 Franklin Ave. Aliquippa, PA 15001 (724) 857-9989 cofbeaver.com

BEAVER COUNTY YMCA



WE ARE MORE THAN A GYM, WE ARE A CAUSE.

FREE SilverSneaker and Silver& Fit memberships available as well as senior rates and financial assistance.

Membership includes all classes, indoor walking track, lap pool, heated therapy pool, water volleyball, whirlpool, sauna, steam room, racquetball, wallyball and pickleball courts, the wellness center, and cycling.

Monthly clubs include: Bingo, Game Club, Healthy Hacks, Lunch Bunch and much more!!

Daily classes include a variety of: SilverSneaker, Silver&Fit, Yoga, Aqua classes, Zumba, and Line Dancing.

Stop by for schedules and a tour! 2236 3rd Avenue, New Brighton, PA, 15066 (724)891-8439







Circle of Friends

Senior Community Activity Centers

- 2 full service centers: Baden and New Brighton open weekdays
- 2 satellite centers : Aliquippa and Midland, open Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursday
- Bingo, health and wellness classes, card tournaments and parties, trips and more
- Meal available daily



Aliquippa



New Brighton

For more information visit cofbeaver.com or call (724) 869-4224 or (724) 846-1959

Education/Libraries/Volunteer Opportunites

Beaver County Colleges

Community College of Beaver County

One Campus Drive Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 480-3500 ccbc.edu

Geneva College

3200 College Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 846-5100 geneva.edu

Penn State University

100 University Dr. Monaca, PA 15061 (724) 773-3500 br.psu.edu

Trinity School for Ministry

311 11th St. Ambridge, PA 15003 (724) 266-3838 tsm.edu

Center for Creative Arts Expression

PO Box 1009 1217 Seventh Ave. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 847-5640 centerforcreativeartsexpression.org

The Center for Creative Arts Expression is a nonprofit membership organization that promotes, teaches, develops and supports the visual, performing and literary arts in Beaver Falls and neighboring communities. They offer programs for both children and adults, including classes, an after-school art program and summer camps, and an arts resource library.

Libraries

Beaver County Library System at Community College of Beaver County 109 Pleasant Dr., Ste. 101, Center Twp. (724) 378-6227 beaverlibraries.org

B.F. Jones Memorial Library 663 Franklin Ave., Aliquippa (724) 375-2900

Baden Memorial Library

385 State St., Baden (724) 869-3960

Beaver Area Memorial Library 100 College Ave., Beaver (724) 775-1132

Carnegie Free Library of Beaver Falls 1301 Seventh Ave., Beaver Falls (724) 846-4340

Chippewa Branch Library 2811 Darlington Rd. Chippewa (724) 847-1450

Carnegie Free Library of Midland 61 Ninth St., Midland (724) 643-8980

Laughlin Memorial Library 99 11th St., Ambridge (724) 266-3857

Monaca Public Library

998 Indiana Ave., Second Floor, Monaca (724) 775-9608

New Brighton Public Library 1021 Third Ave., New Brighton (724) 846-7991

Rochester Public Library 252 Adams St., Rochester (724) 774-7783

Volunteer Opportunites

If you enjoy helping others achieve their dreams, or if you get satisfaction from supporting a cause you believe in, then volunteering is for you. Following is a sampling of local organizations that use volunteers. Check with your favorite organization to see what kind of difference you can make.

Adult Literacy Action, Beaver (724) 773-7810

Alliance for Consumer Protection (ACP), New Brighton (724) 770-2078

Beaver County Humane Society Center Township (724) 775-5801

Beaver County Office on Aging Beaver Falls (724) 847-2262

CASA Beaver County (724) 728-2146

Habitat for Humanity, Beaver Falls (724) 846-1630

Meals on Wheels

Beaver Falls (724) 843-5450

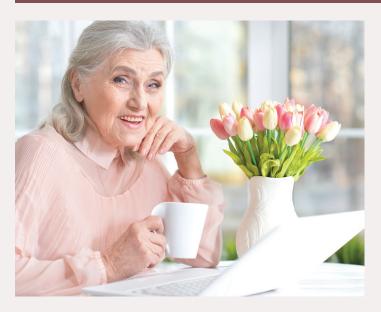
Blackhawk (724) 843-6646

Beaver County (724) 774-0292

Ombudsman Program Beaver County Office on Aging (724) 847-2262

Notes:		

Adult Programs



Beaver County Association for the Blind (BCAB)

616 Fourth St. Beaver Falls, PA 15010 (724) 843-1111 bcblind.org

Beaver County Association for the Blind (BCAB) has been serving persons who are blind or visually impaired and the Beaver County community for nearly 70 years. Some of the services and programs include transportation/sighted guide, a life skills group, support groups, assistive technology classes, a low vision clinic, children and adult vision screenings, low cost/no cost eyeglass program, eye safety education for the entire community and employment opportunities for those who are blind or disabled.

Beaver County Genealogy and History Center

250 East End Ave. Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 775-1775 beavercountyhistory.org

Provides an archival site for study reference, research and preservation of Beaver County documents and books, both historical and genealogical; to provide aid and encouragement to the public in their historical research and genealogical pursuits; to encourage the preservation of public and private records, genealogical data, and cemetery data pertaining to Beaver County.

Beaver County Lighthouse

720 Third Ave. New Brighton, PA 15066 (724) 846-1111

The Lighthouse is a recreational facility for the blind and visually impaired. Every Monday, the Lighthouse hosts a day of breakfasts, craft classes, parties and games, and lunches. The staff can also assist individuals with opening their mail and other small tasks that they may need help with.

The Center for Hope

740 Park Rd. Ambridge, PA 15003 (724) 251-4899 thecenterforhope.com

Provides outreach to the Ambridge community that has undergone economic hardship and vast demographic change. The center provides education, recreation, academic preparation and employment readiness for community residents. Programs include a food pantry, clothes closet, computer lab, daily bread ministry, kids programs and weekly dinner. Income guidelines apply.

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

(724) 656-3070 dli.pa.gov

Their purpose is to expand and strengthen employment outcomes, independence and specialized services for Pennsylvanians with disabilities. An Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) is developed, outlining a vocational objective, services, providers and responsibilities.

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

Beaver Valley Mall

285 Route 18

Monaca, PA 15061

Contact: AARP Foundation SCSEP office at (412) 271-1580

The Senior Community Service Employment Program is a paid training program to assist Beaver County residents, 55 years of age and older, who meet low income requirements with re-entering the workforce. SCSEP provides participants with on the job experience to develop and update skills through paid training assignments at non-profit and government agencies while seeking employment. Training assignments are for 20 hours per week.

If you are an unemployed, Beaver County resident, 55 years of age or older, and interested in getting a job, call the AARP Foundation SCSEP office at (412) 271-1580 to learn more about our SCSEP program.

Nonprofit and government agencies also benefit as the SCSEP Participant provides 20 hours of service weekly at no cost to the organization. To learn more about having your non-profit organization serve as a Host Agency, call (412) 271-1580.

St. Joseph Spirituality Center Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden

1020 State St. Baden, PA 15005 (724) 869-6585 stjoseph-baden.org

St. Joseph has various spirituality programs throughout the

Entertainment

Annual Fairs, Festivals and Celebrations

Annual Greek Food Festival

Greek Orthodox Church, Aliquippa (724) 375-5341

Applebutter Fest

Vicary Mansion 1235 Third Ave., Freedom (724) 775-1848 bchrlf.org

Beaver County BookFest

Beaver Parks, Beaver beavercountybookfest.com

Beaver County River Regatta

Riverside Dr., Bridgewater (724) 774-7615

Beaver Light-Up Festival

Third St., Beaver beaverareachamber.com

Big Knob Grange Fair

New Sewickley Township 336 Grange Rd., Rochester (724) 843-7863 bigknobgrangefair.org

Christmas at the Vicary Mansion

1235 Third Ave., Freedom (724) 775-1848 bchrlf.org

Christmas at the Village

Old Economy Village 270 16th St., Ambridge (724) 266-4500 oldeconomyvillage.org

Darlington Days

Downtown Darlington (724) 827-2132 darlingtondays.com

Festival of Trees

The Lodge at Bradys Run Park Brighton Twp. (724) 847-0900 beavercountyfestivaloftrees.org

Garrison Days

Beaver (724) 775-0189 beaverheritage.org

Hookstown Fair

1198 Rt. 168 S., Hookstown (724) 573-4512 hookstownfair.com

Maple Syrup Festival

Bradys Run Park Lodge Brighton Twp. (724) 378-1701

Native American Gathering

Community College of Beaver County One Campus Dr., Monaca (724) 480-3452

Piecemakers Autumn Quilt Show and Competition

Chippewa United Methodist Church 2545 Darlington Rd. (Chippewa Township) Beaver Falls (724) 814-2868

San Rocco Festa

Fred Taddeo Park 224 Center Grange Rd. Center Township, Aliquippa sanrocco.org

Ongoing Attractions

Air Heritage Museum

Beaver County Airport 35 Piper St., Beaver Falls (724) 843-2820 airheritage.org

Andy Warhol Museum

(412) 237-8300 warhol.org

Beaver Area Heritage Museum

One River Rd., Ext., Beaver (724) 775-7174 beaverheritage.org

Beaver County Conservation

District Environmental Center 156 Cowpath Rd. Aliquippa (724) 378-1701 beavercountyconservationdistrict.org

Beaver County Genealogy and **History Center**

250 East End Ave., Beaver (724) 775-1775 beavercountyhistory.org

Beaver County Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation

The William Vicary Mansion 1235 Third Ave., Freedom (724) 775-1848 bchrlf.org

Beaver County Ice Arena

121 Bradys Run Rd. Beaver Falls (724) 770-2060 beavercountypa.gov

Beaver County Industrial Museum

801 Plumb St., Darlington (724) 312-0831 beavercountyindustrialmuseum.com

Beaver County Model Railroad Club and Historical Society

416 Sixth St., Monaca (724) 775-8023 bcmrr.railfan.net

Beaver County Senior Day

In Beaver Valley Mall corridor or inside Center at the Mall at the Beaver Valley Mall February through November (724) 847-2262

Beechwood Farms Nature

Reserve and Audobon Society of Western Pennsylvania (412) 963-6100 aswp.org

Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History

(412) 622-3131 carnegiemuseums.org

Carnegie Science Center

(412) 237-3400 carnegiesciencecenter.org

Children's Museum Pittsburgh

(412) 322-5058 pittsburghkids.org

Duquesne Incline

(412) 381-1665 duquesneincline.org

Ellwood City Area Historical Society

310 Fifth St., Ellwood City (724) 752-2021 ellwoodhistory.com

Fallingwater

(724) 329-8501 fallingwater.org

The Frick Pittsburgh

(412) 371-0600 thefrickpittsburgh.org

Gateway Clipper Fleet

(412) 355-7980 gatewayclipper.com

Harmony Museum

218 Mercer St., Harmony (724) 452-7341 harmonymuseum.org

Hartwood Mansion

(412) 767-9200 alleghenycounty.us/parks/index.aspx

Idlewild Park

(724) 238-3666 idlewild.com

Entertainment

Jimmy Stewart Museum

(724) 349-6112 jimmy.org

Kennywood Park

(412) 461-0500 kennywood.com

Lernerville Speedway

(724) 353-1511 lernerville.com

Little Beaver Historical Society

710 Market St., Darlington (724) 843-4361

Little Beaver Museum

803 Plumb St., Darlington (724) 843-4361

Meadowcroft Rockshelter and **Historic Village**

(724) 587-3412 heinzhistorycenter.org

Merrick Art Gallery

1100 Fifth Ave., New Brighton (724) 846-1130 merrickartgallery.org

Monaca Community Hall of Fame

1098 Pennsylvania Ave., Monaca (724) 775-3187 monacapa.net

Montgomery Locks and Dam

100 Montgomery Dam Rd., Monaca (724) 643-8400 lrp.usace.army.mil

National Aviary

(412) 323-7235 aviary.org

Nationality Rooms

Cathedral of Learning University of Pittsburgh (412) 624-6000 nationalityrooms.pitt.edu

Ohio Valley Lines Model Railroad Library & Museum

1225 Merchant St., Ambridge (724) 266-4787 ohiovalleylines.org

Old Economy Village

270 16th Street (Visitors Center) Ambridge (724) 266-4500 oldeconomyvillage.org

Pennsylvania Trolley Museum

(724) 228-9256 pa-trolley.org

Phipps Conservatory and **Botanical Gardens**

(412) 622-6914

phipps.conservatory.org

Pittsburgh International Race Complex

201 Penndale Rd., Big Beaver Borough (724) 535-1000 pittrace.com

Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium

(412) 665-3640 pittsburghzoo.com

Rachel Carson Homestead

(724) 274-5459 rachelcarsonhomestead.org

Rochester Area Heritage Society

350 Adams St., Second Fl., Rochester (724) 777-7697

Rodef Shalom Biblical Botanical Garden

(412) 621-6566 rodefshalom.org

Saint Nicholas Chapel Museum

5400 Tuscarawas Rd. Brighton Twp. (855) 306-0607 gcuusa.com/snc.htm

Senator John Heinz History Center

(412) 454-6000 heinzhistorycenter.org

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum

(412) 621-4253 soldiersandsailorshall.org

South Side Historical Village

Route 168, Hookstown (724) 899-4165 sshva.wordpress.com

Sweetwater Center for the Arts

200 Broad St., Sewickley (412) 741-4405 sweetwaterartcenter.org

The Vicary Mansion

1235 Third Ave., Freedom (724) 775-1848 bchrlf.org

Sports

Pittsburgh Penguins

(412) 642-1300 penguins.nhl.com

Pittsburgh Pirates

(412) 323-5000 pittsburgh.pirates.mlb.com

Pittsburgh Steelers

(412) 323-1200 steelers.com

Theater, Stage and Musical **Performances**

Beaver Valley Choral Society

(724) 683-0104 bvchoralsociety.org

Beaver Valley Community Concert Association

(724) 843-2941 bvcommunityconcert.org

Benedum Center for The Performing Arts

(412) 456-6666 pgharts.org

Byham Theater

(412) 456-1350 pgharts.org

Bobcat Players

(724) 494-1680 bobcatplayers.com

Brodhead Cultural Center

Penn State Beaver 100 University Dr., Monaca (724) 773-3610 beaver.psu.edu/brodhead

The Cabaret at Theater Square

(412) 325-6769 (412) 456-6666 pgharts.org

Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center

One Lincoln Park, Midland (724) 576-4644 lincolnparkarts.org

R-ACT Theatre Productions

(724) 775-6844 ractproductions.com

Red Barn Theater

1279 Route 288, Fombell (724) 431-1707 redbarnplayers.com

Wineries

Glatz Jewelers and Wine Cellars

2699 Brodhead Rd., Aliquippa (724) 375-6783 glatzwine.com



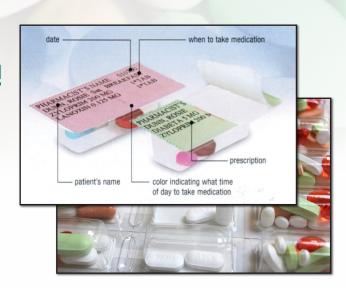
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Your Personal Information

Name	_ Phone
Address	
S.S.#	_ Date of Birth
In Case of Emergency Call	_ Phone
Primary Health Insurance Company	_ Phone
Primary Physician	_ Phone
Pharmacy Name	_ Phone
Medications and Dosage	
Medical Conditions and Allergies	
Ambulance Company	_ Phone
Hospital	Phone
Bank	Phone
Life Insurance Company	Phone
Insurance Agent	
Lawyer	_ Phone
Transportation	_ Phone
Notes	
Advance Directive?YesNo If so, where is it kept?	
Does anyone have power of attorney for you?YesNo	
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